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The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1910.

The Week.

As candidate, distinct from philosopher, Senator Lodge has to be all things to all men, promising "scientific" tariff revision to those constituents who dislike the Aldrich-Payne duties, because they are too high, and intimating still higher duties for the benefit of those who wish them so. Thus in his address last week to the New England Shoe and Leather Association, he declared that the duty on boots and shoes is "too low." The reason he gave is that, under the new 10 per cent. duty, the imports of foreign boots and shoes are increasing. For the nine months ending March 31, they amounted to $116,635, as compared with only $79,247 for the same period in the previous fiscal year. Senator Lodge affirms that this is "'suggestive" and even "ominous." We think so, too. It is suggestive of high-tariff methods that no inquiry at all was made into the nature of these imports, to discover whether they were not articles of fancy or luxury of which the importation has been increasing in so many departments. It may also be fairly said to be ominous that the Senator said nothing about our exports of boots and shoes. For the twelvemonth ending June 30, 1909, their value was $10,305,814. Yet no sooner does $100,000 worth come in than the wise and scholarly Senator from Massachusetts cries out that we are in danger of "getting on our uppers" in the pauper shoes of Europe.

If there had been doubt in anybody's mind that "Uncle Joe" intends to die with his boots on, the Speaker removed all traces of it in his speech at Burligame, Kan. There is something fine about the consistency of the old campaigner, and his refusal to allow either the howling blasts of Kansas insurgency or the scorching heat of the Kansas sun to swerve him from his accustomed attitude. He declares flatly for a "real, virile Republican minority" in preference to "an apparent majority that could not take account of stock and know from one day to the other whether it was the majority or the minority." If the old gentleman were less deeply stirred by his feelings on the subject, he might perhaps take a moment to consider what the prospects of the party would be today if the Republican majority at the recent session of Congress had acted upon the principle that he represents. Imagine the regular organization in both houses having put through a cut-and-dried programme prepared by Cannon in the House and Aldrich in the Senate, and leaving to the Democrats alone all the fighting and protesting; what would be the chances of the party in the coming elections? The only thing that stands between it and a snowing-under such as it has not dreamed of since 1890 is that insurgency which has made it possible for thousands of voters to remain in the party who would otherwise have abandoned it in disgust. A compact and "virile" minority is all very well to talk about while you are still in the majority, but it is mighty dispiriting when it has become an accomplished fact.

Mr. Bryan's gift for picking out the winning issue is notoriously not an over-developed talent. When the fanatical strain in the man joins in to accentuate his want of insight and foresight, we get some such disastrous result as the overwhelming defeat of Mr. Bryan's county-option scheme at Saturday's county primaries in Nebraska. Out of twenty-one county conventions, one only, and that one his own, will stand by the peerless leader. Yet this setback, nailed by Mr. Bryan's opponents as marking the end of his ascendency in the Democratic party of Nebraska, may easily be exaggerated. In the first place, William J. Bryan has so long been the prophet and leader of defeat that one reverse more or less does not greatly matter. That undeniable hold which he exercises over a large section of the Democratic masses is by this time proof against the discouragement attendant upon a single defeat. Or, rather, it is a loyalty which thrives upon defeat, and cites its leader's unsuccess as proof of his disinterestedness, of his unwillingness to compromise, of his instinct for the right issue as against the winning issue.

The appointment of Mr. William George Jordan as secretary of the House of Governors marks an important advance in the history of that institution. To give such a body the strength and weight requisite to enable it to play an important part in our history, there must be some central agency for keeping continuously alive the movements with which it is concerned, and for shaping the programmes of its successive annual meetings. A session of two or three weeks a year can be made tenfold as fruitful as it would otherwise be by a careful planning of the work, and this can be properly accomplished only through the medium of a permanent officer. Mr. Jordan has the credit of having given the initial impulse to the idea of a House of Governors, and he is imbued with a profound sense of the vital service it is capable of doing for the country. To secure uniformity of laws and of action in matters in which the absence of such uniformity is paralyzing, is, of course, the central aim of the House of Governors. And it offers a hopeful means of correcting a weakness of our Federal system without so centralizing power as to threaten the extinction of that spirit of self-government which is the very life of our republican institutions.

A conviction of bribery that has taken place in Massachusetts has attracted less attention than the extremely unusual peculiarities of the case seem to warrant. That the Mayor of a city of 75,000 inhabitants should have been convicted on a charge of bribery after a trial lasting only two weeks, and promptly sentenced to imprisonment for three years in the house of correction; that he and the three other men convicted with him should have been at once taken in charge by deputy sheriffs and handcuffed like ordinary criminals —all this is a story that certainly sounds unlike most stories of political crime. Yet this is what happened a few days ago to Mayor White of Lawrence, Mass., and it seems to indicate the existence of a standard in such matters in the old Bay State which is very different from that prevailing in most of her sister commonwealths. Another circumstance in the case seems, indeed, to

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point in the opposite direction—namely, the demonstration of attachment to the Mayor made by a crowd of more than 2,000 people as he ascended the steps of the jail. The trial was held at Salem, and on his return to Lawrence, in custody, this affectionate greeting was given him. But evidences like this of the loyalty of the neighbors and political followers of a popular or successful man do not, after all, necessarily show anything but refusal to believe that the person in question can really have been guilty of crime.

Woodrow Wilson has done the right thing, and in precisely the right way, in stating his attitude toward the proposal to make him the Democratic candidate for Governor of New Jersey. He will "not in any circumstances do anything to obtain" the nomination; he does not "wish to draw away from" his present duties and responsibilities as head of Princeton University; but if, as many well-informed persons have assured him, it is "the wish and hope of a decided majority of the thoughtful Democrats of the State that he should accept" the party's nomination for the Governorship, he would deem it a "duty as well as an honor and a privilege to do so." If he should be nominated, it may confidently be predicted that he will express himself on the questions of the day with the same frankness and the same dignity with which he has stated his position in regard to the acceptance of the nomination. The New Jersey campaign would be sure to become one of the centres of interest throughout the country, besides being of a character to tone up the political situation in New Jersey itself. Already it is stated that Republican managers are bracing up to the necessity of finding a candidate fitted to be measured against Woodrow Wilson in case he should be put up by the Democrats.

Reviewing the situation in the American stock market, the London *Economist*, in its issue of July 2, after admitting that a great deal must be ascribed to the manipulation of powerful financial interests, declares that it is "the intrinsic conditions surrounding the market itself" upon which critical attention should be concentrated. Among these, it says, "the huge borrowing by the railroads" is one of the most important. "The American companies go on pouring out bonds upon the investor," and "upon this vast amount of new capital the interest charges must be met," while the outlay, though made for reproductive purposes, does not immediately bring in earnings. It is interesting to place this view of the American railway situation alongside that given out by one of the leading railway presidents of the country a few weeks ago, on the occasion of the Government's application for an injunction against the combination rate-advance of Western railways. "The credit of railroads in this country," he was quoted as saying, "has already been so badly shattered by the attacks that have been made upon them during the last six months in Washington that I believe it has been almost totally destroyed by this action." A borrowing capacity which strikes the London *Economist* as amazing, hardly accords with this description; and if some trouble has been experienced in placing the vast total at favorable rates, there is no difficulty in finding a reason for it without recourse to the supposition that Government hostility has broken down the credit of the roads.

European students of medicine can now safely reverse the old process, and come to America to enlarge their knowledge. Such is the opinion of Hofrat Professor Doctor Freiherr von Eiselsberg, expressed before the Medical Association of Vienna after his return from a tour of inspection in America. He was impressed particularly by our splendidly organized hospitals and the daring operations of our surgeons. As an example worthy of imitation in his own country, he referred to the fact that our hospitals are often supported by private munificence. In one town he made the acquaintance of two famous surgeons whose 6,500 operations, 3,700 of them abdominal, had entailed a mortality of only 1.8 per cent. In Boston he was interested in seeing the room in which the first operation under anæsthetics was performed, and pleased to find that the 6th of October is celebrated annually, particularly in Boston, as ether-day. In the Rockefeller Institute he had occasion to marvel at the success attained in bone-transplantation. He was also struck by the strict observance of medical etiquette on this side of the ocean, and the prompt disciplining of offenders against it. His only adverse criticism related to the number of our medical schools; more than 150 are, in his opinion, too large a number even for our vast country.

The moral atmosphere of Pittsburgh has attracted so much attention of late that her long-standing distinction as "the smoky city" has almost been forgotten. It is all the more pleasing to find, therefore, in the current news dispatches that the physical atmosphere of the Pennsylvania iron centre has also been undergoing improvement. The Director of Public Health is quoted as declaring that if the present progress continues Pittsburgh will in the not distant future be almost a smokeless city. "Look in almost any direction from the top of a high building," he says, "and you can find many clear spots which a short time ago were dense with heavy smoke." It is stated that during June seventy-five large manufacturing plants either installed or contracted for new smoke preventives. There are two morals of general application in such a story as this. One is that it is worth while for energetic officials and public-spirited private citizens to stick to the task of improvement in the face of discouragement and delay. The other is that when a change demanded by the public good is pronounced impossible or impracticable by interested parties, the statement is seldom entitled to a particle of weight.

Undeterred by the rapidly swelling list of aviation fatalities, the Wright brothers announce a programme of aeroplane building which would show that, so far as these two pioneers are concerned, airship construction is passing out of the experimental and into the practical stage. They are to build machines specially adapted for speed, for altitude flight, and for endurance. Hence, while most would-be aviators still find it a problem how to fly at all, we have here the beginning of specialization. What is more to the point is that of the three new Wright models announced, two will go in primarily for what the recent series of accidents has shown to be of primary importance—solidity of construction. Built especially for sustained flight and passenger-carrying capacity, these comparatively slow machines will in the end do more for the

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science and art of aviation than the faster and more spectacular racing craft.

From whatever point of view it be considered, the vote in the House of Commons on the woman-suffrage bill is of great significance. This conciliation measure, as it was called, does not go the whole length of abolishing distinctions of sex in the franchise, but would add the names of about 1,000,000 women to the Parliamentary register of voters; and for it 299 members of the House went on record, as against 190 opposed. So large a majority in so full a House obviously puts the whole movement in a better strategic position than it has ever before occupied. The voting was not at all on party lines and the political leaders were divided. The most influential of them were against the bill, though some based their opposition on the fact that it did not go far enough. But in any event it will hereafter be impossible to ridicule the agitation as something wholly fantastic and negligible. A cause which can command a majority of 100 in the House of Commons is certainly to be seriously reckoned with in English politics. It is only fair to say that probably so great a majority could not now be secured for the final passage of the bill. Doubtless some members voted for it on the understanding that it would be pushed no further for the present. Yet its reference to the committee of the whole, whence it can be reported only in the autumn session of Parliament, if at all, was virtually agreed upon in advance.

Socialism and jingoism seem to mix very well in England. During the last general election, one of the biggest guns on the Tory side was the German war-scare letters, written for the *Daily Mail* by Robert Blatchford, who is easily at the head of Socialist journalism in Great Britain. More recently the big-navy cry has been raised by that veteran leader of uncompromising British Socialism, H. M. Hyndman. The aristocratic *Morning Post* is the medium in this case. With Hyndman as with Blatchford, the main point is that England, as the home of such fragmentary popular liberties and rights as the present wicked social order allows, must not permit all Europe to be Prussianized. Socialist Hyndman is explicit. In the first place, England must have a navy to safeguard her food-supply. In the second place, she must have a navy to safeguard the right of asylum for political refugees from other countries. In the third place, England has in her charge the liberties of the smaller nations, who look to her as their protector. Finally, England must be in a position to defend her own freedom. For these reasons Socialist Hyndman is at one with those high Tories who want a special loan of $500,000,000 for war-ship-building, which is strange company, indeed, for the best-known English advocate of international Socialism.

The threatened strike of railway employees in France may bring to a sharp test the announced intention of the Government to limit the right of association of *fonctionnaires*. As most of the French railways are now owned by the state, the men who work for them are really public servants. In his speech in Parliament a few days ago the Prime Minister, M. Briand, declared that a law would be laid before the Chamber to draw a distinction between the liberty of association which ordinary workingmen enjoy, and that which may safely be accorded to state officials. In fact, the general draft of such a law has since been published, and it is easy to see how directly it would apply to a strike on the national railways. The proposed statute—which is really offered as an amendment of existing laws—would concede freely to public employees the right to form unions for all purposes of mutual aid and protection; it would provide means of making representations to superior officers and laying demands before them, while establishing boards of "conciliation"; but would absolutely deny the right to a general strike. The exact words of the Government proposal are: "In case they [the unions] go beyond their lawful functions, and especially if they foment a strike of public employees, they will be subject to dissolution judicially, apart from the punishment which their leaders may incur for such a violation of the law."

Press comment in Germany throws little light on the recent sweeping changes in the Ministry. By some newspapers, as by the Berlin *Tageblatt*, the new appointments are regarded as reactionary; but others see in them only an effort on the part of the Chancellor to secure a more "homogeneous" and efficient Ministry. Equally divergent are the opinions in regard to the probable continuance in office of Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg. There was a general feeling, after the mess made of the Prussian franchise bill, that his tenure of power would be brief. Yet now it is said that his act of strengthening the Ministry argues an expectation of remaining at its head. On the other hand, the breaking up of the *bloc* by means of which Von Bülow governed may be said to have compelled his successor to make new combinations; and the selection of a new Foreign Secretary and a new Minister of Finance may simply mean the necessary arrangements for support in the Reichstag. Probably the safest inference would be that this is one of the things which, the more they are changed, the more they remain the same; and that the Chancellor will go on struggling with his difficult governmental task much as before.

If the Russians and the Japanese are up to mischief in their new convention about Manchuria, they are very careful to keep outside appearances extremely proper. Japan and Russia are to "lend each other their friendly coöperation with a view to the amelioration of their respective railway lines in Manchuria," they are "to maintain and respect the *status quo* in Manchuria resulting from the treaties, conventions, and other arrangements" heretofore concluded, and "in case that any event arises of a nature to menace the *status quo*" they are to enter into communication with each other with a view to taking steps to maintain it; and that is all there is in the convention. The State Department is also informed that the Japanese Government has assured our Ambassador at Tokio that no understanding has been entered into between Japan and Russia beyond what is contained in the instrument now made public. What may be in the hearts of Japanese or Russian statesmen is, of course, another question, but that question we have always with us. As a means of quickening suspicion and hostility, or furnishing ammunition for the chronic fomenters of trouble between this country and Japan, the new convention is a sad disappointment.

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THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

It is known that quiet negotiations have been going on between the Treasury and leading banks, looking to the formation of "national currency associations," as authorized by the act approved May 30, 1908. Secretary MacVeagh has issued a statement confirming the report, and giving certain details of his plans, or, it would be more accurate to say, his hopes. The Secretary takes pains to say that he sees no cloud on the financial horizon. It is not because he fears an "emergency" that he would like the banks to take advantage of an emergency measure. His idea is simply that if the banks were now to put themselves in a position where they could act quickly in case of a currency famine, the possibility of any such famine would be, by that very step, made so slight as to be negligible. At the very moment of urging the banks to form national currency associations, Mr. MacVeagh declares his belief that not a single one of them "within the life of the law" (it expires by limitation on June 30, 1914) will have to "avail itself of the powers with respect to the issue of currency." One sees that it is a kind of big-navy argument in the realm of finance!

There is, however, another reason given by Secretary MacVeagh why the banks should act under the Aldrich-Vreeland emergency law. It is that the hope of a general measure of banking and currency reform is growing dim. The Secretary still believes that something will be done as a result of the elaborate inquiries and reports of the National Monetary Commission, but frankly admits that the passage of a satisfactory and comprehensive law is "not as imminent as we hoped it would be at this time." In line with this is what Congressman Vreeland, who is a member of the Commission as well as chairman of the House Committee on Banking, said at the meeting of the State bankers last week. Discussing the investigations of the Monetary Commission, which looked so unmistakably to the establishment of some form of central bank in the United States, Mr. Vreeland avowed that there were very great obstacles in the way, one of them being the large amount of outstanding Government 2 per cent. bonds, and that it now seemed doubtful if we could have a central bank before the date of their maturity—that is, in 1930! This is truly to defer the matter to the Greek Kalends. If this is the best we have to hope for—though, of course, a scheme less radical than a central bank might be feasible—it is not surprising that the Treasury and the banks should be thinking of makeshifts.

Turning to the provisions of the emergency law, Secretary MacVeagh accurately states the objection which the banks had from the first to entering into national currency associations. Any given bank's liability as such a member was not clearly defined, and there seemed to be no provision under which a bank, once in an association, could withdraw. Doubts of this sort were so formidable that, in fact, only one association of the kind was formed—and this in Washington, as it were out of neighborly deference to the Treasury; as Mr. MacVeagh now points out, the impulse to form currency associations completely died away. This was done, he says, "before it became evident that the objections found by the banks could and would be overcome." But he does not explain how they are to be overcome. By a Treasury regulation? By an amendment of the law? Light on these points is much needed. From the first, critics of the emergency law showed how cumbrous would be the formation and working of the proposed currency associations. Delay would attend every step, though a crisis would demand speed; and the currency when once issued would be subject to a heavy and cumulative tax. These facts are, of course, consistent with an argument for forming the associations long in advance of their actual need, so that they might act quickly when the time came; and the tax of 5 up to 10 per cent. would be a positive check on the use of emergency circulation for speculative purposes. Yet it still remains a good deal of a mystery why some banks should look with favor upon the project of entering into currency associations.

If it is possibly a fear of "tight money" ahead that moves them, it should seem that they would more naturally turn to other measures of relief. For the Aldrich-Vreeland bill offered a distinct alternative to currency associations. Section 3 provided that any individual bank might deposit with the Treasury "bonds or other interest-bearing obligations of any State, or any legally authorized bonds issued by any city, town, county, or other legally constituted municipality or district in the United States," and be entitled to issue notes upon such security up to 90 per cent. of its market value. Now, if there is one familiar complaint in the situation to-day, it is that bonds are not selling well, that the banks have too many of them. If, then, anything like a currency stringency is in sight, the banks have in this enlarged provision for bond deposits a swift and sure means of relief. From the very passage of the bill, expert financial opinion was certain that the banks would act under Section 3 rather than trust themselves to the complicated machinery of the national currency associations. And the special wonder now is why there should be an apparent readiness to do what all were averse to doing in 1908. The law is explicit about the nature of the "commercial paper" upon the security of which banks in associations may issue notes. It must "represent actual commercial transactions," "bear the names of at least two responsible parties," and "have not exceeding four months to run." Strictly interpreted, this would appear to be safe, especially with the increasing tax upon the circulation; but how could the Secretary of the Treasury be "satisfied with the value and character" of the great mass of paper that might be offered? It would come down in the end to a question of good faith on the part of the banks; and if any of them are now favoring the currency association plan in the hope that it will enable them to make profitable use of "commercial paper" otherwise hard to carry, they may rest well assured that their motives and every detail of their operations will be closely scrutinized.

MACHIAVELLI AND ROOSEVELT ON INSURGENTS.

Col. Roosevelt's announcement that he is not taking sides in the factional quarrels within his party, but is simply hearing all comers and inquiring, seems to argue that in his trip through Italy he stopped long enough to read a page of the great Florentine master of statecraft. Machiavelli has a chapter in his "Discorsi" which is all about insurgents. He uses almost the very word, writing of those who would "reprimere la insolenza di uno che *surga* in una repubblica." But the advice which Machiavelli gives to rulers and statesmen is, in

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such cases, to go slow. He would evidently not favor Mr. Wickersham's plan of dealing with dissidents by "reading them out of the party," since he declares that the safer way, and the way to avoid scandals, is first carefully to inquire into the causes of the strength (*potenza*) of insurgents. What are their grievances? Why do they suddenly break with men with whom they have before been glad to work? How much popular support have they? What can be done to satisfy their desires without imperilling the settled order? These, says Machiavelli, are the questions that the wise publicist will ask and seek to answer before proceeding with a high hand (*forza*); and it should seem that Mr. Roosevelt is adopting the method recommended by this great authority.

Thus far, it must be admitted, the Colonel's utterances do not show that he has made much progress with his investigations. He lays down two propositions: (1) he is for "the best man"; and (2) he is for his party only so long as it does what is "right." We fear that the Florentine Secretary would have called this vague and unsatisfactory. An intense political realist himself, he had little patience with mere words and abstractions that "get us no forrarder." He would probably have insisted upon asking by what test we are to know who is the best man, and who is to be the judge of what is right. As there was no Oyster Bay for Florentines to resort to in order to have all such doubts resolved, the Colonel's oracular deliverances would not have been welcomed by them as a present help in time of trouble. Still, the spirit and intent are the important things at the beginning; and we are sure that Mr. Roosevelt is going about the business in the right way. Before striking the insurgents, he will hear them; he will discover the real positions they take and the aims they cherish; and in the process he may be able to make some things clear to his countrymen which they now find obscure.

Take, for example, the case of that insurgent, Hiram Johnson, who is making a stirring canvass for the Republican nomination as Governor of California. Mr. Pinchot, after a conference with Col. Roosevelt, said that he was going out to take the stump for Johnson. The primary comes on August 15, and there are three leading candidates, Curry, Anderson, and Johnson—the first two regular, the latter an avowed insurgent. In a speech at South Pasadena last month, Johnson made his political alignment clear. He said:

> I do not take my Republicanism from a Cannon nor from an Aldrich. Neither do I take it from a Ballinger, who to-day disgraces the Cabinet. My Republicanism is the Republicanism of Dolliver and Cummins and of La Follette; it is the Republicanism of that great American patriot, Theodore Roosevelt.

This certainly is flat insurgency, and Johnson's avowal of it has filled the regular Republicans of California with mingled horror and rage. They call Johnson a chronic bolter, and a voter who "usually supports Democrats for office." The San Francisco *Argonaut* harshly characterizes him as one who "is attempting by vociferous damnation of men better than himself to revive old scandals and to besmirch the party with which he pretends to be affiliated." To add to Johnson's party crimes, he has ignored a test which it has been sought to impose upon all the candidates in the primary—namely, whether, if beaten, they will support the nominee. Johnson has refused to reply at all to the question; and the inference is drawn that, if the result of the primary be adverse to him, he will stand independently for the Governorship as the candidate of the Lincoln-Roosevelt League.

All this does not take us beyond the mere fact of Johnson's insurgency; the Machiavelli-Roosevelt method would carry us further. What is the secret of Johnson's power in California? Why, it is his direct attack upon a corrupt political machine. "Smash the machine and make California free," he cried at one public meeting. The machine he refers to is that which goes by the name of Republican, but which really ought to be called "the Southern Pacific machine." His hearers believe Johnson to be within the truth when he declares that it is this railway-political machine which has debauched the State and even got its grip upon a part of the judiciary. So the issues which Johnson is pushing to the front are those of honesty and manhood. Anybody can say he favors good roads and material development and conservation of resources, declares Johnson, but those are not the real questions before the people of California. What they are called upon to decide is whether they are to be for or against graft and corruption. One begins to understand how a fearless and energetic campaign along these lines is rattling the political dry bones in California, and making Johnson both hated and feared. And with Pinchot and Roosevelt to aid him, it is doubtful whether the regular Republicans will be able to "repress the insolence" of this insurgent.

AUTOMOBILES AND SAVING.

Dealers in bonds are complaining that the usual amounts devoted to the purchase of these securities out of the mid-year payments of interest and dividends have not been forthcoming, and some put the responsibility for this state of things upon the craze for automobiles. "Bonds," the cashier of a bank is quoted as saying to a bond salesman, "what have we to do with bonds? See that man just gone out? Well, he borrowed money on his life insurance policy and is going around the corner to buy a car." "That's nothing," said another bond man. "A client of ours came in with a city bond of large denomination and asked us to split it up and sell $2,000 of it at once. He wanted to take the money with him. We said it would be very difficult to realize the cash while he waited, but he would have it, and we asked him why such haste. He was going off on a motor trip, he said, and he needed new tires and a lot of things. He got the money."

The figures that deal with the aggregate expenditures of the people upon the purchase and maintenance of automobiles are largely guesswork; but it is plain that the draft thus made on the productive resources of the nation is so large as to be a very considerable economic factor. A quarter of a billion dollars annually is probably a safe estimate of the amount spent on the purchase of automobiles in this country; another quarter of a billion, perhaps, is expended on their care, maintenance, and repairs. If all of this can be looked upon as a net addition to the outlay of the nation for luxuries and comforts—as so much deducted from what would otherwise have been saved and put into the form of permanent productive investment—it is evidently a factor of real importance and contributes in a sensible measure to the maintenance of high rates of interest and to the difficulty of disposing of gilt-edge low-rate securities at the prices of former years.

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But while there is unquestionably something in all this, there are a number of considerations that tend to break the force of it. Chief among these is the fact that the enormous increase in the automobile business has been concurrent with that great advance in the cost of living which has been occupying everybody's attention in the past year or two. We are often told that the necessity of more income to meet the increase of habitual living expenses is one great cause of the unwillingness of people nowadays to invest in low-rate securities; and this explanation is apt to be advanced by the same persons who take the darkest view of the reckless expenditure for automobiles. It does not seem probable that both of these changes are going on simultaneously on a very great scale. If the pinch of high prices is driving great numbers of people into buying less safe investments than before, in order to secure the income necessary to maintain their customary mode of living, it is not likely that a great multitude are also, in the face of the same situation, cutting deep into their income to provide themselves with the new luxury. A great multitude, that is, in a national sense; that there are many thousands who are foolishly extravagant in the matter is, of course, undeniable. The probability, therefore, is that the tremendous expenditure on automobiles is quite as much a sign of increased income as it is a cause of diminished savings; if a great deal of it is due to a sudden access of extravagance under the stimulus of the passion of the typical American to have the latest and the best thing going, probably an even greater part is due to the increased income that has come to large classes of people with the increased prices.

In principle, however, the idea of those who look askance on the pouring out of vast quantities of money upon automobiles is sound. American optimism, American free-handedness in the spending of money, and the desire of every American to have what any American has, all conspire toward the production of a wave of extravagance. And it is no answer to the critics to say that the expenditure thus arising "puts money into circulation" or gives employment to workmen. If it is taken out of that part of the income of the spenders which would otherwise have been put into income-bearing investments, it diminishes by so much the producing power of the country. Had the money spent upon the automobiles been invested in this way, it would have "gone into circulation" just as truly, but it would have taken, in some shape or other, the form of capital that reproduces itself as it is used, instead of that of a commodity that is used up in two or three years, or of services which leave no trace after they are rendered. This, of course, is not saying that money expended for recreation, for pleasure, or even for luxury, is money wasted. It is only saying that you cannot eat your cake and have it too. A certain amount, and a very large amount, of expenditure for things other than what are usually called necessaries is not only proper but eminently desirable; the only question is where to draw the line. And if the line is drawn, in a given case, beyond the point of ordinary prudence, it is not open to the nation to console itself with the thought that it made no difference, since the money simply kept things going in one direction rather than another. In the one case you keep things going while your money lasts; in the other case you keep them going permanently, because productive capital is the source not only of an annual output, but also of the means of its own permanent maintenance.

THE ACTOR IN SUMMER.

During the warm months theatres are mostly under lock and key. Their only bustle springs from painters who refurbish the proscenium or carpenters who alter traps and improve the "grid-iron." There are neither plays nor audience, and rehearsals come only with the waning of summer. Meanwhile, where are the players? With regard to some of them the public is kept well informed. Their comings and goings are chronicled, their habits and diversions bulletined. A is taking a motor trip through France, B is at his country home on the Sound, C is furnishing good advertising by his presence at some hotel. In such wise does the star commune with nature the while he steadily plays a part before his midsummer audience.

But what of the rank and file? All winter they have been telling us that the carriage waits without, m' Lord. Or they have been vinegary mothers-in-law, or stern fathers, or sophomoric younger sons, endlessly "feeding points" into the insatiate stellar maw. For them there are no automobiles and motor boats. And there is small chance to work, for the number employed by summer stock companies is almost negligible. Therefore they linger in the metropolis.

They manœuvre like yachts jockeying at the start of a race—drifting, tacking, backing, and filling, killing time in various ways till the starting gun. It is hard to believe that these are really people like ourselves. Lamb remarked: "It is with some violation of the imagination that we conceive of an actor belonging to the relations of private life, so closely do we identify these persons in our mind with the characters which they assume upon the stage." None the less, one stares at them with the same vague curiosity he feels in the presence of a celebrity. As for them, they are serenely Olympian; the rest of mankind is on a level far beneath. As in primitive society, the local and professional topics are bandied about by word of mouth. In point of gossip a group of idle actors is like a New England sewing circle; the resemblance ends there.

It is the liking for companionship, as well as the opportunity for making engagements for the next year, that draws the player to New York. Broadway is the rallying-point, a lodestar to the Thespian. The town is meat and drink to him; he loves its bricks and walls, its cacophony and glitter. To him the city means actual life, whereas trees and daisies and cows mean nothing but so many trees and daisies and cows. Comus-like surroundings make no stage to his liking. Indeed, they bore him. But at least he has the merit of admitting this frankly, unlike some Janus-minded individuals who rhapsodize about "Nature." There is nothing essentially shameful in regarding a grazing cow as a planked steak in embryo. The actor is fond of a good dinner, but of good fellowship most of all. So there be friends about, it matters not who has to pay for the repast. Goldsmith long ago hit off the unemployed player:

> "I am sorry, sir, that a person of your appearance should labor under difficulties." "O, sir," returned he, "my appearance is very much at your service; but, though I cannot boast of eating much, yet there are few that are merrier: if I had twenty thousand a year I should be very merry; and thank the fates! though not worth a groat, I am very merry still. If I have threepence in my pocket, I never refuse to be my three-half-pence; and if I have no

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money, I never scorn to be treated by any that are kind enough to pay my reckoning. What think you, sir, of a steak and tankard? You shall treat me now; and I will treat you again, when I find you in the park in love with eating, and without money to pay for a dinner."

There speaks the play-actor himself. It is impossible not to feel a certain affection for him. Oddly enough, only the workaday winter season reveals some of his least admirable traits. Summer shows merely the surface flaws. Like a great, good-natured, grown-up child, he loafs through his hot-weather months, gayly clad, with little thought for the morrow, but with a keen zest in the present and in the friends about him. Though the summer may deprive him of his livelihood, it at least gives him greater opportunity to become a human being according to his own lights.

THE GOETHE-FEST.

WEIMAR, June 19.

Many years have passed since quiet little Weimar last witnessed a festival such as yesterday marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Goethe Gesellschaft. The programme was appropriately opened with the unveiling of a statue to Alma von Goethe, the grandchild of the poet, who died at the age of seventeen. All who knew her, including Thackeray, agree in ascribing to the girl more than ordinary loveliness, and something of her charm Jerichau, the Danish sculptor, sought to breathe into his plastic marble, in Rome, 1848. Strange to say this work of art—showing the maiden reclining in sleep, her hands full of roses, her feet amid lilies—disappeared for years, and was only recently rescued by chance from oblivion. Prompted by the same spirit which actuated their erection of the monument to Frau von Stein last year, the Goethe Gesellschaft has placed this Carara stone on the eastern side of the old Friedhof's middle wall, not far from the memorial to Goethe's mistress, and here, on a gentle rise of ground, surrounding the graves of the Goethe family, assembled, on Friday, June 17, the admirers of Goethe's genius. But few well-known Goethe *Forscher* were absent, and in the hushed company were several authors widely famous. The stillness of the afternoon was broken with Hölderlin's suggestive couplets,

Die Linien des Lebens sind verschieden,

sung by Von Baussnern, to music which Professor von Oettingen, in a polished but simple address, used as a guiding thought in tracing the strange and varied fate of Goethe's descendants: August, his son, falling in foreign Rome; Ottilie, the gifted and cheerful daughter-in-law, long Goethe's faithful companion and nurse, a wanderer after his death, finding nowhere a home; Walther and Wolfgang, her sons, ailing, unhappy epigoni, void of all accomplishment; and finally, Alma von Goethe, their one bright hope, sinking in the flower of her youth. Dr. Vulpius, on behalf of the family of Goethe's wife, feelingly laid a *Rosenkranz* on Alma's grave; Prof. H. G. Fiedler of the University of Oxford briefly and modestly added another cluster of flowers, in the name of the English Goethe Society; while a representative of the Modern Language Association of America, with a not very tactful speech, placed another emblem—a huge laurel wreath, gay with a streamer of red, white, and blue!

Of the four thousand members of the Goethe Gesellschaft, above four hundred sat down at dinner in the evening. Prof. Erich Schmidt, Rector of the University of Berlin, presiding. The usual toasts were given, Erich Schmidt and Professor Fiedler, among others, speaking. President Schmidt paid a graceful compliment to Ambassador David Jayne Hill (sitting at his right), in recollection of Mr. Roosevelt's visit to Berlin, and Professor Fiedler, in a whole-souled speech, introduced himself and the delegation sent to Weimar by the English Goethe Society. Almost thirty English men and women were grouped together. The American representation, on the other hand, was disappointingly inadequate, especially considering the far greater advance in America in scholarship relating to Goethe and German literature generally, and the number of American professors known to be in Europe this very day.

Saturday, the following morning, the annual meeting of the Goethe Gesellschaft was held at the Armbrust—the club where, twenty-five years ago, the Gesellschaft first came into being. In a characteristically masterful address, full of personal reminiscence, Professor Schmidt, formerly director of the Goethe-Schiller Archive, and the only surviving member of the original committee that organized the Gesellschaft, reviewed the history of the association, sketching its growth, falling off, and revival, the work it had accomplished, and what it still purposed to do. He recalled intercourse with those who had really known Goethe, and the charm of seeing the faces he had seen, and described the odd and distinguished personalities drawn to Weimar from everywhere. These included Kuno Fischer, "a man of great gifts and enormous combative power, with just as enormous consciousness of his own importance," and Hermann Grimm, who at first refused to have anything to do with the movement, then under the protection of the Grand Duchess Sophie, saying that "princesses have no holding-out power." To this Sophie answered: "I will show Herr Grimm whether my interest in the Goethe Gesellschaft will hold out, or not!" with the result that but a year or two elapsed before Grimm was the chief lecturerer of the Society. The venerable Dr. Suphan read a report on the Goethe Archive, showing that its great work with the documents entrusted to its care is at last nearing completion. Professor Fiedler addressed the Gesellschaft, saying that he and his colleagues were present to prove that the influence of Goethe at points distant in the world is of an enduring character, and that in England especially Goethe's influence is steadily increasing. Of all modern literatures, he said, none is so closely associated with Goethe's thought and production as the English. Goethe's youthful genius was kindled at the altar of Shakespeare, and Walter Scott began his literary career with the translation of Goethe's Shakespearean "Götz." Goethe and Byron, Goethe and Carlyle, belong closely together. Nobody will maintain that Goethe's influence in England is yet as effective and apparent as the influence of Shakespeare in Germany, but Goethe will some day come to his own in British lands. Of all English-speaking countries, England is the only one where a Goethe brotherhood has resolved itself into a Goethe Society, and in England Goethe's influence lies in the future.

At this session, honorary membership was conferred on Alexander von Gleichen-Russwurm, Maria von Ebner-Eschenbach, Friedrich Spielhagen, and Professor von Donndorf, and announcement was made that the Gesellschaft had decided to create a Society Gold Medal, to be awarded from time to time for accomplishment in Goethe study. The first persons to receive the medal will be Prof. Julius Wahle, for twenty-five years archivist at the Goethe-Schiller Archive, and Dr. Max Norris of Berlin.

The event of most general interest, however, in the anniversary was the Goethe-Fest in the park at Tiefurt, a lawn party attended by thousands in costume, no one being admitted without a dress of the Goethe period or some garment suggested by his works. For such an open-air display, the clear, cool weather was ideal, nor was anything defective in the historic pageant. Even in the morning, the Saxe-Weimar *Kleinstadt* was enlivened with gayly-attired figures, contrasting often oddly with the dress of the peasants driving their green-grocery trade in the Market Place, and when the hundred vehicles began to move from Weimar up through the woodlands to Tiefurt so oft traversed by Goethe and his roysterers, full thirty thousand spectators lined the shady roadway, stretching two miles to Tiefurt Castle. The group representing "Hermann und Dorothea" led the procession, part of the company riding in

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heaped-up emigrant wagons or historic carriages—among them the old *Jagdwagen* of Karl August, drawn out for the first time in many years from the Grand Ducal carriage-houses—and part walking. Slowly the entire procession made its way to and through the charming Tiefurt Park, passing the long-standing Venus Temple, where it was reviewed by the court. Then the groups disbanded, every one free to roam the woods and fields until the beginning of "Das Jahresmarkt zu Plundersweilern."

At half past five, this clever satire of Goethe on society was played again after a lapse of many years, probably twice as many participating as in the *Uraufführung*. Judged by itself, the play to-day was a great success. It may be doubted, however, whether there was the charm of the first performance (at the neighboring castle of Ettersburg, October 20, 1778), for which "three weeks of painting, hammering and noise" were required, when Kraus was decorator. Then young Goethe, with Anna Amalia and Kraus painted the tableaux of the *Bänkelsänger;* and Goethe played no less than three rôles. Music from Haydn—in part by an orchestra of twenty-five children, costumed as in Haydn's time—followed. Appropriate songs were to have been given; but a stage-frightened soprano made too deep a *Hofknicks*, or bow to the court, lost her balance, and had to be carried out, incapacitated for weeks!

Towards nine o'clock, "Die Fischerin," crowning the festival, was again given on the spot where it was first produced one hundred and twenty-eight years ago. Seeing his opportunity to make use of nature at this point in the beautiful dense Tiefurt Park, Goethe, assisted by the sprightly Corona Schröter, wrote the charming little play of the fisher-maiden, who, tired of waiting supper for her father and lover, determined to teach them a lesson by pretending that she had been drowned. After various rehearsals in Goethe's garden at Weimar, the play was tried at Tiefurt on July 15, 1782, with such success that Goethe sent a private copy to Frau von Stein, charging her, however, to show it to no one, and adding: "We will dispose of the melon together." A day or two after, Goethe issued placards—copies are still extant—announcing the first public performance for July 18; but the play seems to have been given first on the 22nd. Then Aulhorn was *der alte Fischer*, "Demoiselle Corona Schröter" was *Dortchen*, and Seidler was *Niklas*, parts taken to-day respectively by Herr Strathmann, Frl. Runge, and Herr Szpinger, all leading singers at the Weimar opera. It may not be known to many that Goethe's "Erlkönig" was written for this little play, Dortchen singing it to music by Schröter as she draws water from the Ilm, stirs the fire, and waits for the belated fishermen. A stirring effect is produced by the noisy fisher and his young companion rowing down the stream in the darkness, and singing lustily as they row; and all that Goethe expected from the *Hauptmoment* in the piece, when the neighbors are called to look for the "lost Dortchen," and the woodland breaks into flaming torches, was again realized on this night. When Goethe was stage-manager, the court and select friends sat near the *Fisher-Hut* and the nets, on the same bank where the scenes were played; this time, however, all the auditors were on the opposite bank, the narrowness of the stream, and the strength of the players' voices—especially that of Strathmann—permitting everything to be seen and heard, and justifying again the closing words of the roguish song,

Was soll die Aussteuer sein?
Der Beifall soll die Aussteuer sein!

As usual, some liberties were taken with the original text, but, all in all, it was a faithful reproduction, and a marvelously successful one. By ten o'clock, the play was finished, and the Festival concluded with bon-fires and dancing on the new-mown grass. PERRY WORDEN.

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SENHOUSE AND JOHNNY APPLESEED.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: It seems hardly possible that Maurice Hewlett should have happened upon an almost legendary figure in the footnotes of our early nineteenth-century history for the hero of his Senhouse trilogy; but certainly Senhouse is of kin to Jonathan Chapman, more familiarly known as Johnny Appleseed, not only in his outward life but more particularly in temperament.

Jonathan Chapman's history, like that of Senhouse, begins upon the road. In the cider-making season of 1801, Jonathan Chapman, then a young man, appeared among the orchard lands of Western Pennsylvania. He loaded a wagon with the seed gathered at the presses and set forth into the territory of Ohio. Under his hand the wilderness was to blossom and bear fruit. For fifty years he wandered back and forth through Ohio and Indiana, planting and cultivating the apple tree. Within those years many thousands of young trees grew to maturity under his care and wafted forward a civilization that still lingered in the East. Senhouse, it is to be remembered, spent his days in sowing the waste places of England with flowers.

Chapman and Senhouse are not unlike in personal appearance. Chapman is described as a slender, wiry man, full of a restless activity; his hair was long and dark; he wore a scraggly beard that was never shaven; he had keen black eyes that sparkled with a peculiar brightness. Senhouse is lean and tall with densely black hair, his moustache thin and drooping; "his eyes were what is called black and had a burning quality."

Chapman's dress was of the simplest, cast-off garments of homespun or buckskin, obtained in exchange for his young apple trees. He went bare-footed, even in the coldest weather, occasionally wearing rudely constructed sandals for travel in rough places. Later in life, he grew to scorn such conventions of dress as he had before observed, and clothed himself in a single garment of coffee-sacking. It is interesting to note that, while Senhouse also dresses simply, bare-headed and with sandaled feet, he finally comes, in Rest Harrow, to wrap himself in a white burnous when he sits in meditation.

There is also a marked similarity in their relation with other men. Neither man, in spite of his odd mode of life, met with ridicule from the world that each shunned. The peasants and gypsies believed that Senhouse had a wisdom and a healing power peculiar to himself. The Indians looked upon Chapman as a medicine man, while his extreme piety filled the settlers with awe.

If Hewlett drew wholly upon his knowledge of the human soul rather than upon concrete fact in the creation of Senhouse, the correctness of his deductions is not to be questioned; for not only do the real Chapman and the fictitious Senhouse resemble each other, in the details of their physical life, but their spiritual life is consistently analogous. Each is a poet and a mystic, each loves nature with his whole being, and each worships God in nature. Their tenderness extends to all living things. They were both vegetarians, because they could not take life. Senhouse is made to say: "Whether the beasts perish or not, it is very clear that they live to the full in this world." He would injure no living creature. Chapman refused to kill an attacking wasp, "because it did not mean to injure him."

The doubts of one, the perfect trust of the other, represent a difference in time and experience, rather than in soul or character. Hewlett's hero is modern and sophisticated. He enters upon his strange life with a full knowledge of good and of evil and is always conscious of the workings of his own spirit. "Wind and rain and sun have bleached me; dinners of herbs have reduced my flesh to obedience, incessant toil with meditation under the stars has driven my thoughts along the channels graved deep by the patient plodding of the field. I am become one with nature." And so far as he is one with nature he is one with God. As to the future the modern Senhouse is uncertain, but his faith in the present never wavers, and it is in the present that he lives well, "If I die to live again, I have it behind me that I have lived well already."

Whatever the chance that drove Chapman into the forest, it is certain that he went about his work with the unconscious simplicity of a child. He professed himself a Swedenborgian, he believed in a personal God, in angels and in spirits. Nature was not God, but he inspired it with his essence and therefore was it sacred. It is thus that Johnny Appleseed would account for his own tenderness toward all living things, never in his humility conscious of the poetic harmonies within himself.

We have yet to read what end Hewlett makes of Senhouse. Chapman's passing was the perfect climax of a simple life. An old man, he stopped at evening at a settler's cabin. Food and shelter were offered him; the latter he declined. After reading the Beatitudes aloud to his hosts, he was left sitting at the door with his eyes upon the setting sun; and so he passed.

Certainly, if the chroniclers of Jonathan Chapman have spoken true, and there is little reason to suppose they have not, these two characters, the real and the fictitious, have too much in common to let the similarity go quite unnoticed.

Elisabeth M. Comstock.

Richmond, Ind., July 12.

HONORARY DEGREES.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Is it the proper function of a university to act as a bestower of social honors, or should a university give its degrees as a tangible symbol of work accomplished in that university? If in England a wealthy brewer receives a title which enables him to sit in the House of Lords, is there any good and sufficient reason why our universities should attach a label of scholarship to a person who is not especially scholarly, but is prominent in the public eye? What do the degrees of A.M., Ph.D., and LL.D. really signify? Or what should they signify? If in France a successful fishmonger can become an officer of the Legion of Honor, must we in free and enlightened America follow suit? And, moreover, if Congress will not grant titles of distinction, is there any reason why our universities should? We are ostensibly a plain, democratic people, despising titles and social tinsel—why should our centres of learning cater to a degenerate and un-American hankering after social tags and labels?

Or, if we are prepared to admit, shamefacedly and covertly, that we are very much like other people in other countries, and that after all we dearly love a lord or something of the sort; and if our universities are to assume the functions of a monarch in social matters, why not, as the Chicago *Record-Herald* suggests, create a new set of degrees suitable to the occasion? The titles should be in English, easily understood, and should plainly set forth their *raison d'être*. For instance: D.H.F. (doctor of high finance), D.Wp. (doctor of wire-pulling), D.A.P. (doctor for advertising purposes). Other suitable degrees will doubtless suggest themselves to inventive American genius, but D.H.F. should be reserved for people whose only distinction is that they have money, no questions being asked as to how acquired. D.Wp. would meet the case of successful politicians, no inquiry as to methods being had. D.A.P. would save the face of small colleges that grant degrees for the sake of calling attention to themselves—the receiver being bigger than the giver.

However this may be, there is certainly one thing upon which reputable universities ought to agree among themselves, and that is not to confer the ancient and honorable degrees of A.M. and Ph.D. on persons who have not really done work in that particular university sufficient for those degrees. Perhaps the case of LL.D. is hopeless now, but a stand can be made on the A.M. and the Ph.D. An honestly earned A.B., for instance, should be an indispensable prerequisite for either of these titles.

X.

Chicago, July 5.

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ALTERED QUOTATIONS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: After re-reading Mr. Lewis E. Gates's admirable essay on Matthew Arnold, I was struck by a misquotation which Arnold makes in his study of George Sand: "A presence that disturbs me with the joy of animating thoughts." Here is an uncommonly interesting example of an author's revelation of his own leading characteristic by his slip of memory, for Mr. Gates refers to "that impression of vitality that is perhaps, in the last analysis, the most characteristic impression the reader carries away from Arnold's writings." How could that sprightly controversialist have confirmed this judgment more happily than by substituting "animating" for "elevated" in the quotation above? I am far from asserting that such a test would apply to the misquotations of the average writer, but it is frequent enough to merit the attention of the literary psychologist.

Some authors, it is to be feared, deliberately alter a word now and then, in quoting, in order to apply the sentiment to their own purpose. Hazlitt, for example, can hardly have been guilty of the following save by design: "The native hue of *emulation* is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought." He had been speaking of the attempt to copy a fine painting. In spite of his frequent minor inaccuracies, he had a keen feeling for the really fine word. One of his favorite quotations is that on music from the opening lines of "Twelfth Night," and he never writes "sound," but always "south":

> O, it came o'er my ear like the sweet south,
> That breathes upon a bank of violets,
> Stealing and giving odor!

Nearly all modern editors print "sound." Hazlitt's instinct for poetry was too exquisite for that; it is clearly the gentle breeze which brings odor with it; how a sound can steal and give odor passes the poor comprehension of the present writer. Even if "sound" be taken to refer to a breeze, this is a strained and fantastic usage which it is not probable that Shakespeare would have employed in his mature period. Are our present-day editors of the great dramatist lacking in imagination? Or is Hazlitt to be dismissed as a mere "belletristic trifler"?

Harry T. Baker.

Beloit, Wis., July 11.

THE USE OF MANUSCRIPTS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I have read with some amusement the letter of Mr. Konkle printed in your issue of July 14. Either his inquiry was superficial, or his question was not properly framed. No society holding collections of valuable manuscripts permits the indiscriminate use of ink in copying. The risk would be too great, and I speak after a somewhat wide experience in such matters. Indeed, a custodian of manuscripts who should say that he allowed ink to be used by any or all copyists would, in my opinion, be a very unfit person for his place. The rule that ink shall not be used exists in every institution, even in the Library of Congress; but it is lifted as occasion requires, and so falls under the discretion of the guardian. Mr. Konkle must have asked librarians who have few or no manuscripts in their possession. Abroad the rule against ink is more generally enforced than with us.

Mr. Konkle asserts that scholars, of known reputation and serious purpose, should enjoy the use of ink. Why? Scholarship does not imply care and consideration for the safety of the manuscripts. I have seen a very capable biographer and a charming companion empty an inkstand over a seventeenth century letter, doing irreparable injury by a nervous movement of the arm. No one ever complained of my use of rules in the Library of Congress, but no one could say the rules were not there, and to be enforced when necessary. I have never hesitated to use pencil where that was imposed by the rules, and I question if many have had as wide an experience in copying as I have enjoyed.

While on this subject let me say that I have been much impressed by the ignorance of most people of the care that manuscripts entail. It requires months to arrange a collection of papers in either chronological or alphabetical order; in half an hour any one can introduce hopeless confusion in a collection so arranged. Examiners do not hesitate to mark the original document for their copyists, and a red or a blue pencil appeals to them because either will make a broad, almost indelible mark. They will separate parts of the same paper, they will splash with a spluttering pen, and they will trace with an unusually hard and sharp point, in apparent unconsciousness of injuring the original manuscript. And the next person to look at the collection blames the custodian for letters out of place, for private markings on the papers, and for stray papers which they bring together, and make much of the feat! A manuscript is unlike a book, in that it is unique and easily injured or stolen. For the proper care of such material special rules have to be made—and enforced.

Worthington C. Ford.

Boston, July 14.

Literature.

WAR TIMES IN THE NORTH.

Social and Industrial Conditions in the North during the Civil War. By Emerson David Fite, Ph.D. New York: The Macmillan Co. $2 net.

Professor Fite is to be congratulated upon his successful excursion into a comparatively new historical field. In all the voluminous writing about the civil war, it is the military, political, or diplomatic aspects of the period that have claimed chief attention: no one, apparently, has thought it worth while to pass beyond the battlefields, whether of soldiers, statesmen, or diplomatists, and study minutely the social and industrial life of the country during the four years of strife. Professor Fite has now made a notably good beginning in this direction, so far as the North is concerned. The labor of the undertaking has obviously been great. The material has had to be sought in newspapers and magazines, State and municipal documents, trade publications, college catalogues, and innumerable out-of-the-way places; and there was the added difficulty of discriminating, in the mass of relevant matter, between the general and the local.

The first and clearest impression which these pages afford is of the extraordinary industrial activity and material advancement of the North during the war. Far from suffering check, industry was in reality more active and prosperous than ever before; and that, too, in directions where prosperity would hardly be expected. Agriculture flourished beyond precedent: each year there were bountiful harvests and sufficient labor to gather them. In each year of the war the production of wheat, for example, exceeded that of 1859, the banner year thus far; and although the corn crop showed a slight falling off for the country as a whole, that of the West increased. Cattle-raising was still unimportant, but the increase of sheep and hogs was unprecedented. The explanation of this remarkable agricultural expansion, in a time when the men in farming communities were being drawn off in large numbers by the war and by the opening of western mines, is to be found, as Professor Fite points out, in the increased use of labor-saving machinery, the work of women in the fields, and foreign immigration, the last-named being fostered by the railways, which both employed and distributed labor, by State immigration agencies, and by the opening of new lands through such national incentives as the homestead acts and the great land grants to railways and agricultural colleges. The lessened influence of American cotton in English industry was more than offset by the greatly increased foreign demand for wheat, a demand which had much to do with preventing recognition of the Confederacy by Great Britain.

The expansion of agriculture was equalled by that of mining. The output of coal, iron, copper, salt, and the precious metals exceeded, in general, that of any previous period, while the production of petroleum opened up a new industry of vast possibilities. Mining, moreover, drew tens of thousands of men from the older East to the far West and Northwest, altering the distribution of population, building up towns like mushrooms, and developing for a time a type of frontier society the like of which no other part of the world has ever so well exhibited. The railways, on the other hand, though confronted with a previously unheard-of burden of traffic, were at a disadvantage: water competition was serious, traffic by canal and river increasing as fast as traffic by land; there was extreme inequality in the distribution of railway mileage in different parts of the country; and there was no standard gauge to facili-

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tate through trains and the interchange of cars. Nevertheless, while construction fell off in comparison with the previous decade, many new lines were projected or begun during the war, old lines were improved or consolidated, rolling stock was greatly increased, and through service to the West introduced. Profits from railways were unprecedentedly large, stocks which hitherto had maintained a low market level now rising to par or a premium, and many roads paying dividends for the first time in their history.

More familiar, doubtless, as matter of recent history, is the activity in manufacturing, not only in lines in which the war made an extraordinary demand, but in many others also. The production of cotton textiles, naturally, declined, though profits were large; on the other hand, the demand for woollens expanded by leaps and bounds, many cotton factories being converted into woollen mills in consequence. Less creditable, but enormously profitable withal, was the shoddy industry, lending its name, as time went on, to the cheap performance in other industrial lines of which the war period was full, and to the moneyed aristocracy which the new wealth suddenly created. The greatest stimulus to manufacturing, of course, was the government contracts, which furnished opportunities for exceptional profits as well as for extensive frauds, and from which many a Northern patriot extracted both riches and social position.

In the wide field of commercial life, the war wrought more diverse effects. The period saw the rise of values due to greenbacks and treasury notes; the establishment of the national banking system and the suppression of wildcat paper money in the West; the expansion of savings banks, whose deposits were swelled not only by the savings of labor, but by soldiers' wages and bounty payments; unexampled progress in life insurance, with the rise of accident insurance and marked gains in fire and marine insurance; and phenomenal response to the repeated offers of government bonds. The post office, between 1861 and 1865, introduced more reforms than can be credited to any other Presidential Administration, before or since. The consolidation of telegraph and transportation companies brought new problems in the aggregation of capital, which resulted in new methods and relationships for banks, trust companies, speculators, and investors; and new difficulties in such matters as prices, rates, and monopolization. Of the career of the Camden and Amboy Railway, the most hated monopoly of the time, controlling transportation between New York and Philadelphia, Professor Fite gives a particularly good account. Protective tariff interests, on the other hand, worked successfully against the continuance of reciprocity with Canada, and the American merchant marine suffered eclipse.

The prosperity of employers and capitalists was not, unfortunately, duplicated in the labor world. With the introduction of paper money, the gratifying conditions which had prevailed before 1860 suddenly changed. "Peace in the industrial world gave way to discontent; labor, indeed, remained scarce, even more scarce than before, but the laborer was no longer sure of his daily bread and of decent comfort; the ability to lay by for a rainy day was threatened, and instead of being petted and humored labor came to regard itself as aggrieved; it assumed an attitude of hostility towards employers and took concerted measures in self-defence" (p. 183). Wages not only failed to keep pace with the rise of prices, but were further unfavorably affected by foreign immigration, the increased employment of women and negroes, and the use of machinery. Professor Fite is clear that the war-time scarcity of labor has been exaggerated; but the quality of labor deteriorated, unions became aggressively militant, and the longer strikes generally failed. Salaries, too, failed to share equitably in the general advance, the most bitter illustration being the college teachers, whose virtually stationary incomes often entailed positive want.

We cannot follow in detail here Professor Fite's exceedingly interesting chapters on the course of public improvements, education and literature, luxuries and amusements, and charity. In spite of the heavy burden of taxation, the years of the civil war saw widespread activity in building, and in the construction of waterworks, gas, and sewerage systems, street railways, fire-alarm telegraphs, and public parks; though to a considerable extent this was only the continuation of a development already begun. Street improvements, however, halted, and filthy thoroughfares bred frightful disease. One thinks with horror of New York, with a death rate in 1863 of one to every thirty-five inhabitants, and 12,000 cases of typhoid fever and 1,200 cases of smallpox in a single year. On the other hand, there was conspicuous increase in the number of new churches and public buildings; new colleges and technical schools were established and old ones enriched, though the college enrolment as a whole declined; public schools were filled to overflowing; and even the wages of teachers advanced to about the level of those of low-grade mechanics. Public libraries grew apace, literature flourished, theatres were generally crowded, even in the darkest days of the war, and the round of social functions went on with added feverishness. Of public and private charity, the war afforded striking and widespread illustration, from the smallest local efforts to the great Sanitary Commission, with its twenty-five million dollars worth of beneficent service.

Professor Fite has evidently been oppressed at times by his wealth of material. The footnotes bulge with statistics and citations; statements relegated to the notes are sometimes quite as significant as those of the text; while here and there a paragraph ends abruptly, with a note to the effect that the writer has accumulated a mass of evidence on the topic which cannot now be presented. The index is slight for a book of this character, the treatment of persons and places being singularly poor. Occasionally, too, a faulty passage suggests haste or lack of revision. For the most part, however, these are only the faults of unpractised writing, or the irregularities of path-breaking in a new field. Taken as a whole, the book is eminently readable, and, in places, graphically written, while its scholarly thoroughness makes it a work to be reckoned with by any one who shall hereafter set himself to tell comprehensively the story of the civil war.

CURRENT FICTION.

The Ramrodders. By Holman F. Day. New York: Harper & Bros.

Stories of American politics commonly suffer from too much intention. It is over-clear what the author is driving at in the way of partisan or moral effectiveness. Yankee politics has seemed to afford a particularly uncertain foothold to the novelist. Either seductions of dialect and local color have proved too strong, or the imagination has been insufficiently stirred by the public scene. Twice of late, however, with "Mr. Crewe's Career" and "The Ramrodders," a really vigorous narrative has emerged from the vague limbo in which float the materials of the historical story-teller's art. Mr. Churchill's theme was the corrupt dominance of a government by a corporation; Mr. Day's is its dominance by an insincere tradition. The name of the State involved is nowhere mentioned in the course of the story, but that is not because the author feared to acknowledge his locus. This kind of anonymity, formal as it may be, serves to enhance the suggestion of a wider meaning in the parable. However, the "color" is unmistakable. The Hon. Thelismer Thornton is as racy a native in his way as Hosea Biglow or David Harum. His fund of rustic parables is inexhaustible, and no contretemps is too serious to be hit off, Lincoln-wise, with some analogy from "up our way." Thornton has been known for many years as the "Duke of Fort Canibas"—an up-State district which he represents in the State Legislature. His adroitness and lack of scruple have made him a power in the

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State. At eighty-five he determines to retire from politics, and to make a grandson his successor. Harlan Thornton has no desire to enter politics, and is outraged to find himself nominated by an unscrupulous trick. Once in the game, however, he makes up his mind to play it according to his own rules, not his grandfather's—to play fair, and to put himself on the honorable side of every issue. Thornton, Senior, has no such intention. He believes that his grandson will be very quickly shaken down from his untenable heights by contact with practical politics. A reform agitation is in progress, and the Duke of Fort Canibas feels that neither of the advertised candidates for the Republican nomination is strong enough for the situation. Consequently, he persuades a contemporary of his own, an ex-Governor, to stand for the nomination—believing that he will stand by the party machine in the Governor's chair. Young Thornton comes out of the fight a strong man. There are, of course, two girls in his case, but they are neither of them conventional, and the "love-interest" is not too obviously lugged into a story of unusual force.

Why Did He Do It? By Bernard Capes. New York: Brentano's.

Stories of fantastic plot and whimsical manner are by no means rare, but in this instance both machinery and personnel give an effect of originality hardly, perhaps, to be borne out by chill analysis. Inventiveness is the word. Hitherto, we believe, the philosopher's stone has not been identified with "the stone of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge." Set it in a ring, and give to the wearer of the ring that knowledge of good and evil which was not meant for mankind, and you have a novel fulcrum for twentieth-century romance. The "he" of the title is a Professor Urchin, antiquarian, and director of the department of antiquities in the "United Goods Stores," London. The professor is not a recluse: on a convivial occasion his young host, Mr. Roger Mandrake, bets that he can steal something from under the noses of the officials and detectives of the great shop. The professor undertakes "in case of accidents to hold him immune." The next day the young man makes the attempt, and is at once arrested: to his amazement, the professor denies all knowledge of a bet, and Mandrake is hurried off to prison. The case is not pushed, but the youth's reputation is seriously injured, since he has been discharged rather than acquitted. The fact that he is in love with the professor's daughter makes matters worse. Both the lovers are at loss to explain what looks like wanton perfidy on the part of the professor. "Why did he do it?" The key to the answer is to be found in the character of the article stolen—a rare book in which the professor has discovered a clue to a mystery of great import. Mandrake's random selection of this book leads the antiquary to the suspicion that one other at least is on the trail of the secret. What that secret is we have already hinted: far be it from us to unravel the series of events which lead to its discovery, or to describe the strange events which follow. That true love is rewarded is the least important consideration. The style is far better than would be expected in a yarn of this sort: Mr. Capes has a turn for epigram, and it is just as well that his whimsical habit is too much for his intention to make a solemn and impressive thing of his mystery.

The Master-Girl. By Ashton Hilliers. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

To make a plausible heroine of romance out of that stark and by all accounts unprepossessing person, the cave woman, is something of a feat. Mr. Hilliers does not conceal the fact that the "master-girl" was in some respects unlike the Gibson girl. She had, for instance, small hairy ears, which she "pricked perpetually," and she scalped her enemies in a way now considered unladylike. Nevertheless, she is made out an attractive person, and one does not grudge her the authority over her husband which, according to the legend, was given to her first among women to enjoy. From the hour in which she captures the primal wooer who has set forth to capture her, the question of dominance is settled. Her supreme achievement is the invention of the bow, which gives her the place of chieftainess over her husband's tribe, and changes all the conditions of tribal life thereafter. It is a picture well "calculated" to please the eye of the feminist. However, we do not take it to be a tract, so much as a parable of vigorous and suggestive type. The advance of the race rather than of a sex is the theme. But taken purely on its ground of fiction, the narrative has enough of spirit and simplicity to stand on its own merits. It is quite as likely to interest the small boy as the antiquary or the new woman.

Letters to My Son. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.

This is a kind of thing which ought to have been done better if it was to be done at all. The effect of the actual performance is rather unpleasant. The idea is that of a woman of thirty, who after seven years of marriage finds herself with child. She is much pleased, but almost as much frightened, and, getting it into her head that she may very likely never see him, writes a series of letters to be read by him in case she dies.

The style of emotional smartness, hysteria varied by flippancy, in which they are written, might perhaps be tolerated in a very young girl in the circumstances, but must be distressing, not to say unseemly, in a woman of thirty:

> Oh, little thing, if your mammy has to leave you and by any chance gets to Heaven, they won't want her there very long. She'll always be leaning out of a top-story window, trying to catch sight of her baby as he goes out for his walk, or else forgetting to do her singing while she worries about his gaiters being long enough, or his vests warm enough.

So goes the strain; and some there be, no doubt, who will find it amusing, or touching, or both. Good material does not lack, in the way of maternal feeling and maternal moralizing, but all is spoiled for the sensitive reader by the habitual slop-over of the style.

MR. HILL ON NATIONAL RESOURCES

Highways of Progress. By James J. Hill. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co. $1.50 net.

Here is a vigorous book, from one who can put into the printed page the same effective energy and directness of aim that have marked his efforts in the business world. Much of the material has already had a greater or less degree of publicity. The opening chapter, delivered before the Agricultural Society of Minnesota four years ago, had much to do with stimulating the present deep interest in the general subject of conservation of our national resources, while the volume concludes with a substantial reproduction of the address delivered by Mr. Hill before the conference of Governors assembled at the White House in 1907. Other chapters have appeared in whole or in parts in various periodicals, and yet an unbroken unity of purpose and the inherent value of each part warrant republication in book form.

The first three chapters, with the tenth and sixteenth, deal with agricultural conditions and prospects. Much has been written of our wasteful methods, and the sure disaster to which they must lead, if not corrected, but no one has put it quite so lucidly and forcibly as Mr. Hill. We boast of our immense wheat crops, but when we are brought down from a seemingly magnificent total of nearly three-quarters of a billion bushels to the generally overlooked fact of a ten-year average of less than fourteen bushels per acre, we readily assent to the brief comment, "It is a disgraceful record." Our inspiration at the thought of the busy American farmer swarming into the rich new regions of the West, as they are opened up, is somewhat dampened when we realize how often this means that he is abandoning fields worn by wasteful methods beyond the point of profitable tillage, only to repeat the same unintelligent process with the virgin soil to which he removes. With no radical revolu-

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tion in the direction of "intensive" rather than "extensive" farming, but merely by the general application of better methods again and again successfully demonstrated on a small scale, the author shows convincingly that the gross agricultural product of the United States might be more than doubled, with no increase whatever in the area under tillage. And it is in this direction that we must look for our future prosperity. The dream that, with the products of our factories, we can master the markets of the outside world is folly. "There must be a national revolt against the worship of manufacture and trade as the only forms of progressive activity, and the false notion that wealth built upon these at the sacrifice of the fundamental form of wealth production can endure." As a practical stimulus to a more intelligent agriculture, he would have Congress provide for a large number of small model farms, possibly one in every agricultural county throughout the country, so that every farmer might see the difference in results between the unprofitable habits inherited from an ignorant past and the intelligent application to the soil of present day scientific knowledge. The contrast thus presented to the eye "would be worth more than all the pamphlets poured out from the government printing office in years." To build one warship less each year, he suggests, would effect a saving sufficient to maintain one thousand of these practical schools of agriculture, or one in every county of ten or twelve States like Ohio.

Next to farming, Mr. Hill naturally gives his attention to problems of transportation. Development of civilization and of transportation facilities go so inevitably hand in hand that he does not deem it necessary to determine which is the leader. The important truth for the present day is that any serious check upon the latter, whether it springs from the vagaries of the unpractical political theorist or the rancor of unfounded prejudice, must react unfavorably upon the interest of the former. One can readily agree with the author that untold harm has been done by the avalanche of "railroad-baiting," both State and national, which has marked the legislation of recent years, but he would have added effectiveness to his plea for reason and justice in legislative dealing with railway problems by a fuller admission of really serious offences on the part of the defendant in the case. To show that many of our legislative attempts at regulation have been both unintelligent and unjust is not to prove that the popular feeling against railway corporations has no real ground for existence. It is true that such a corporation, looking for its profits to the receipts from its legitimate carrying business, cannot permanently exact freight rates so high as to destroy the profits of the producers and shippers along its route without disaster to itself. And yet there have unquestionably been many cases in which the inevitably monopolistic situation of carrying corporations has been so abused to the detriment of the producer and shipper as to justify bitter resentment. A positive government regulation of rates has unquestionably come to stay, and the one thing most needed for the immediate future is the cultivation of such a spirit on both sides as shall allow that regulation to be based on principles of justice to all concerned, not upon an undiscriminating spirit of retaliation. A chapter given to water transportation assails severely and convincingly the hap-hazard way in which the hundreds of millions so far appropriated to waterways have been squandered. No money should be spent for this purpose, except in accordance with a general plan, in which two great trunk systems, the Mississippi and an outlet from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic, should come first. In the latter case, the Great Lakes "must be supplemented by a true deep waterway along the line of the Erie Canal, instead of the commercially valueless ditch into which the people of New York State are now dumping another $100,000,000, principally for the benefit of politicians and contractors."

As a man whose financial interests are bound up with the continued industrial development and general prosperity of the country, Mr. Hill argues with especial force against the unreasonable tariff barriers which the country sets up with one hand to counteract much that it is ostensibly trying to do for commerce with the other. The assertion that the tariff has nothing to do with the high cost of living, he rejects with scant ceremony. "Common sense says that when the cost of the necessaries of life in a town on the Canadian side of the Detroit River is reported at nearly 25 per cent. less than on the American side, the tariff accounts for the difference." With Canada, especially, he would sweep away every barrier, in the confident belief that absolute freedom of trade would mean immense material advantage on both sides of the border. For Mr. Hill's business head is too clear to entertain the childish theory that an act of trade can benefit only one of the parties concerned. We commend this suggestive and forcibly written book to the attention of every thoughtful citizen.

Camp and Camino in Lower California. By Arthur Walbridge North. New York: Baker & Taylor Co. $3 net.

Although an appendix to this volume contains a Lower California bibliography covering seven pages, that part of Mexico is still largely *terra incognita* to the world at large. No complete maps or reports of the interior have been published, and there are plenty of unvisited places with sufficient mystery hanging over them to tempt a man who, like Mr. North, is "filled with eager anticipations of adventures in the wilderness." Like Upper California, it is a land of contrasts. In most minds the words "Lower California" conjure up visions of cacti, palms, deserts, broiling sands —and they are all there, no doubt whatever; yet on the first page of this book we find the author with chattering teeth, too cold to care whether his mule followed the trail, his canteen filled with a solid mass of ice. This was when the raw December wind came shrieking down on him from the snowy peaks of the San Pedro Mártir Sierra. Six months later he takes the reader with him to the crest of this same Sierra, where the mighty backbone of the Lower California cordilleras has attained its supreme height. It is totally unlike the rest of this country, a region where condors and eagles, wild ducks, mountain quail, deer, wild cats, lions, coyotes, half-wild horses, and cattle—descendants of the herds of the mission friars —alone dwell. No wonder that the inviting glades of this plateau are becoming the goal of most visitors to the interior of Lower California.

After a frosty morning on this crest the explorers found themselves stretched out at night far below, on burning sand, with the thermometer registering 112 degrees. That strikes the keynote of the volume. Heat and thirst are the leading motives which recur on nearly every other page. The most generally interesting chapter is the one which is devoted to Magdalena Bay, the only great anchorage between San Francisco and the Isthmus. The story of this bay is "dashed with the wild flavor of the romance of ages," and Mr. North tells briefly all the various attempts, since the days of Cortez, to utilize this wonderful harbor, spacious enough to accommodate the navies of the world. They all failed because of the want of water to drink. More vivid are the two chapters in which the author's narrow escapes from death by thirst are narrated. On one of these occasions the guide said: "Sir, to-morrow morning no water, to-morrow afternoon—we die." But they luckily stumbled on one of the caminos built by the missionaries—highways that connect the garden spots of the peninsula—and found water. A foolhardy crossing of the Colorado Desert, about the mouth of the river, where, in August, "a pedestrian can last perhaps eight hours without water—then come insane delusions, harbingers of death by thirst," again came near ending the career of the travellers.

They came into regions more than once where the only camino was the line of graves of men who had died of thirst.

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On the other hand, they dwelt in garden spots, enjoying the magic languor of the land, living on wild mutton and wild honey, and having no other wish than that they might continue forever in these retired places in the rugged wilderness. They came among Indians who had never seen whites, and found one who recalled as the happiest day of his life that on which he scalped the women and children of a caravan. They wondered at the ethics of the whites who would not hesitate to shoot an Indian, but allowed no one to kill an Indian's pig. They found scorpions in their beds, and were often in danger from the sidewinders, an extremely poisonous kind of rattlesnake that travels at night on the caminos. They had opportunities to kill mountain sheep, and once saw a desperate combat between two rams, who were oblivious of all else, with a third one endeavoring to separate them. The mission ruins were inspected, and the Indian petroglyphs studied. The towns also were visited, and the author has a good deal to say about the pretty señoritas he saw in them and the hospitality of the resident foreigners, as well as the natives. Then came the news of the San Francisco calamity, and he had to hurry north to look after his bank account. But he returned—as who would not to a country where there are places like San José del Cabo, in which "if a man stops a week he becomes a 'lotus eater' and only ropes can haul him away"? The many photographs which adorn his pages help to explain why Mr. North enjoyed his tour so much, notwithstanding thirst and sidewinders and other dangers.

A History of the Irish Parliamentary Party. By F. Hugh O'Donnell, M.A., Q.U.I. With portraits and other illustrations. Two volumes. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. $5 net.

Frank Hugh O'Donnell was of the Home Rule party from the beginning of the movement in 1873, and he was of the Nationalist group in the House of Commons as member from Dungarvon from 1877 to 1885. In these two volumes there is necessarily much about the history of the Irish Parliamentary party from the point of view of Mr. O'Donnell—from its beginning in 1873 to the general election of 1910. There is, however, nearly as much about Mr. O'Donnell himself and his achievements in the social, journalistic, and political life of London. Modesty and restraint in style are not characteristics of Mr. O'Donnell. In almost every chapter he seeks to impress his own importance on the reader; and according to his own showing he is indeed a man of extraordinary achievement in British politics. With the exception of Isaac Butt, for whom Mr. O'Donnell shows more admiration than for any other man in Irish politics in the last forty years, no Irishman domiciled in London since the Union has achieved more than he himself claims to have done. He devised the policy of interference in all British affairs that brought the Home Rule group into Parliamentary prominence. Mr. Parnell, "who went up like a rocket and came down like the stick," was Mr. O'Donnell's "apprentice." Joseph Biggar served under him in a similar capacity; and "neither the one nor the other at the outset could move an inch without my guidance, nor utter a criticism without my inspiration." Mr. Biggar and Mr. Parnell were, again according to Mr. O'Donnell's statement, no better than hedgerow orators when he recruited them. But Mr. O'Donnell was so convinced that these two novices were likely to be serviceable to the cause of setting up king, lords, and commons in Ireland, that he condescended to a remarkable degree, and also underwent much self-denial, to act as their Parliamentary associate and tutor:

> They were neither kinsmen nor comrades of mine. There were a hundred would-be Parliamentarians who were infinitely closer and nearer to them in every respect than I. Except in relation to his labors for my policy, Mr. Biggar was a total stranger to me and I to him. I knew absolutely nothing and cared less about Mr. Parnell, before I recruited the well-born malcontent for my views and for my views only. Outside the furtherance of my policy it was impossible to me even to have an enjoyable conversation with either of them or with both. Any patriotic ham-and-bacon merchant could discuss Greece and Rome, the French Salon, or the British Academy, the Renascence and the Revolution, the tragic muse of Dante or that *voix d'or* of Sarah Bernhardt, quite as delicately and as eruditely as the excellent Biggar; and Parnell's accomplishments were not one whit less than the solid tastes of Mr. Biggar. I lived on the contrary with the finest flower of the intellectuality of three capitals. . . . What on earth outside of the policy had I to do with an unlettered squireling and a rugged provincial tradesman?

In England at this time—that is, in the closing years of the Parliament of 1874-1880—Mr. O'Donnell was as powerful as he was within the Irish party. His claim is that he was the founder of the Farmers' Alliance. He next asserts that as a result of his work for this organization sixty Conservative county members failed of reëlection, and that thereby the Gladstone Administration of 1880-85 came into being. Mr. O'Donnell is animated by as strong and as persistent a dislike of the Union as ever inspired Mr. Parnell, and it has been the aim of his political career to restore what he often describes as king, lords, and commons in Ireland. But it must be conceded that the Union gave Mr. O'Donnell great opportunities for the exercise of his political capacity and acumen; and surely no one can read his history of the Irish Parliamentary party without perceiving that Mr. O'Donnell made the most of the opportunities, and also made opportunities when to less well-endowed politicians none was offering. Ireland since the Union has been a country of crises. There has been an almost endless series of crises since 1870. But no crisis could develop of which Mr. O'Donnell did not see a way out, whether it arose out of the Land Act of 1881 or out of the appearance of Mr. Parnell in the divorce court in 1889.

One aim of Mr. O'Donnell's history is to show that what was really serviceable to the cause of Ireland in the Home Rule movement was achieved while Mr. Butt and he were of the Irish party, and that since he came to the conclusion that Irish-American intervention meant the ruin of the movement for the reestablishment of Grattan's Parliament, and consequently withdrew from the Irish party at Westminster, virtually nothing of value has been achieved. The movement has survived Mr. O'Donnell's withdrawal for a quarter of a century. At the last general election eighty-two Nationalist members were returned from Ireland. But Mr. O'Donnell considers the movement to be now of little account. In his closing chapters he insists that the clergy are now in control of the United Irish League, and the present-day Home Rule movement. He is convinced, moreover, that the reëstablishment of a Parliament in Dublin is one of the last changes that bishops and priests really desire to see. He is at issue with the Roman Catholic bishops on the question of education. He is opposed to the concessions which have been made to them; and the chapters in his book which are concerned with education in Ireland—elementary, secondary, and university—and with the position of lay teachers in Ireland under the existing system of church control, are likely to command some degree of attention from students of Ireland's political and social economy.

A Handbook of Foreign Study. By H. J. Darnton-Fraser, Convener of the International Academic Committee. Edinburgh: The Darien Press.

The Students' Representative Council in the University of Edinburgh is an organization composed "of representatives of the matriculated students in the university, and of university societies, associations, or clubs, mainly composed of such matriculated students." Its functions are described in the following words: (a) To represent the students in matters affecting their interests; (b) to afford a recognized means of communication between the students and the university authorities, and (c) to promote social life and academic unity among students. The council is said to

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be the oldest institution of its kind in Great Britain. The germ of the idea of forming such an organization appears to have been brought by R. Fitzroy Bell, advocate, from Jena, where he had been much impressed by the useful Studenten Ausschuss.

The Council has not confined its useful activities to the students of Edinburgh, but it has taken the initiative and a most prominent part in the organization of an International Academic Committee whose purpose is "to give information and introductions to British students going to foreign universities, and to foreign students coming to British universities." For this purpose it has appointed certain gentlemen, who appear to have been selected with great care and good judgment, as honorary academic consuls, at a large number of universities. These consuls act without pay and give immediate attention to any inquiry received relative to the university under their special view. It is plain that an organization so useful as that of the International Academic Committee has the ability to be of great service not only to British students, but to all English-speaking students, and this appears to have been early seen and acted upon by the untiring convener of the committee, H. J. Darnton-Fraser of Edinburgh. It appears to be the hope that this endeavor to bring the students of different universities into closer relations with one another, at that period in their lives when the character is still plastic, may be productive of substantial results in removing jealousies and misunderstandings between the cultivated people of different nations. Already this International Academic Committee has begun its invasion of America, and some progress has been made, in a quiet way, in the selection of a few consuls. But, as yet, the aims of the organization have not been brought prominently before our American students.

The Handbook of Foreign Study, compiled under the auspices of the committee, is sold at Edinburgh at its cost (sixpence net). It contains far more information respecting universities than we have ever before seen in a handbook. More than one hundred and fifty universities are pretty fully described as to the following points: Climate, cost of living, fees, conditions of matriculation, dates of sessions, libraries and museums, attractions, general information, vacation courses, cost of journey, special foreign classes, degrees. It is plain that such a handbook needs frequent revision in order to keep it well up to date, but many of the facts, once clearly stated, are of permanent value. Thus, the edition of the handbook now before us bears the date of 1909, but a critical examination of a large part of it shows that it is fully up to the times.

The success of the whole scheme is shown by the remarkable increase in the amount of business transacted last year over the year before, which was really its first year of active work. The number of applications from students desirous of obtaining information in regard to universities has more than doubled, and the number of letters of introduction has kept pace with this increase. To lessen the great amount of correspondence necessarily falling on the consuls, three consuls-general have been selected, to whom the more general questions of the choice of a university in a given country can be referred: this new arrangement, which keeps in touch with the headquarters at Edinburgh, makes an efficient organization.

George Sand: Some Aspects of Her Life and Work. By René Doumic, of the French Academy. Translated by Alys Hallard. With 18 portraits and a facsimile. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2.75 net.

The publishers have illustrated this volume much more liberally than was the case with the French original, and they have made of it on the whole an attractive book. We regret to say that we cannot give equal praise to the translator, but, remembering that the way of such a person is always hard, we prefer to pass at once to a consideration of M. Doumic's tribute to the greatest woman in French literature.

The book consists of ten *conférences* given before the Société des Conférences, a fact which is duly set forth in the original, but for some inscrutable reason is omitted in the translation, despite the explanation it affords of the sketchy and incomplete character of the work. M. Doumic has not attempted to write a detailed biography or a profound study of George Sand. His book, to use his own words, is only a series of chapters envisaging divers aspects of her life and her work. As such it seems to us to be a useful and not unagreeable contribution to the literature of its subject, notwithstanding the fact that in our judgment the author would have done well before printing to excise many half-humorous and wholly platitudinous passages, which may not have been out of place in his pages as they were originally read to his complacent auditors.

The distribution of topics is satisfactory in view of the public for which the book is designed. Two chapters suffice to sum up the life and work of the "Bonne Dame de Nohant," the serene woman who had left behind her not only her fervid attachments, but her extravagant romanticism and her militant socialism. As a result of this distribution several good novels of her later years are not so much as mentioned, and the general reader gets little or no conception of the large amount of intelligent critical and miscellaneous work accomplished by this wonderful woman. In the nature of things, only two chapters could be given to her interesting youth and to her unfortunate marriage to M. Dudevant. A chapter on the "Feminist of 1832," one on the ardent but soon disillusioned supporter of the Revolution of 1848, and four chiefly occupied with her relations with Musset, Michel of Bourges, Chopin, and Pierre Leroux make up the rest of the book. In his discussion of the early years of her emancipation and of that extraordinary story, "Indiana," M. Doumic seems to us to allow his wit and his anti-romantic bias to get the better of his critical faculty. One is somewhat amused by his pages, but one wonders how many modern readers will understand the fascination exerted by George Sand's first great story, not only upon her ebullient contemporaries, but also upon readers of to-day quite as unromantic as M. Doumic himself.

This criticism does not appear applicable—at least not to any great extent—to the chapters dealing with George Sand's chief affairs of the heart. Our writer is notably successful in taking a middle, and a sensible, position between the extreme partisans of George Sand and those of Musset, misguided persons who have wasted too much ink within the past fifteen years. He seems fair also in the chapter devoted chiefly to Chopin, and we agree heartily with the high estimate he puts upon the literary quality of such of George Sand's passionate letters to Michel of Bourges as have been permitted to see the light. Unless we are greatly mistaken, these "Lettres de Femme," which are fully as remarkable for their interpretation of nature as for their expression of complete surrender to love, have been published only in the *Revue Illustrée*. If he had done nothing else than call attention to them and publish the fairly numerous bits of hitherto inaccessible correspondence to be found in his pages, M. Doumic's book would perhaps have had its sufficient justification for appearing at this juncture.

It has a better justification, however. Despite what seem to us serious omissions and fairly frequent lapses of sympathy and taste, the book has what are for the moment two great merits. It emphasizes in an adequate fashion George Sand's influence on French fiction and the quite unrivalled charm of her rustic idyls, "La Mare au Diable," "François le Champi," and "La Petite Fadette," to say nothing of "Jeanne," "Les Maîtres Sonneurs," and portions of "Mauprat." It furthermore enters an effective protest against the absurd neglect, not to say contempt, that has been exhibited by partisans of the realistic and naturalistic schools of fiction, as well as by those over-subtle and delicate souls who in these latter days have come near making

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all forms of art a by-word and a source of reproach throughout the world—it enters a needed protest, we say, against the neglect and contempt displayed by a generation far less intelligent than it has fancied itself to be toward one of the greatest of the world's story-tellers, and one of the most sincere, lucid, and essentially benevolent minds that ever reported through the medium of the printed page its observations upon human life and character. For M. Doumic, as for us all, there are features of George Sand's life and work that call for amused indulgence or for severe censure; but she is for him, in the main, a great writer, one of the glories of his country's literature, and his book, if read in the light of this prime fact, ought to do good both at home and abroad. It is not a book that will live or that will add to his reputation, but it is a book that may be of use in calling fresh attention to George Sand.

Addresses and Essays. By Morris H. Morgan. New York: American Book Co. $1.50.

This book was issued only a day or two before the death of its gifted author, and is a valuable memorial of him. All but the first article had already appeared in print, but the collection is none the less desirable. Of the technical studies, which were reviewed as they appeared, we need not speak here. They include subjects as diverse as the water-supply of ancient Rome, the date of Cicero's "Pro Roscio Comœdo," Quintilian's quotations of Horace, *quin* with the subjunctive in questions, various etymological notes, and critical and interpretative studies of Lysias, Persius, and especially Vitruvius. The value of the collection is that these careful and minute investigations are assembled with writings of an entirely different nature, which bespeak a genial and well-rounded personality gifted with a feeling for literature and a sense of humor. Taken together, they suggest a definition of what philology is when rightly understood.

Of the lighter essays, the most audacious is the exposé of "the real Persius," which was written at a time when various "true" biographies of great men were appearing and which proves by all the canons of philology that this innocent youth was a deplorable gourmand and roué; it is a thoroughly Horatian burlesque, in which the satirist with no trace of flippancy can laugh at himself and his art. The author's mild fling at Teutonic deficiency in humor has just received added point from a review by a learned German who triumphantly refutes the base insinuations of this essay. All the essays, even the most technical, are distinguished by a firm and aristocratic style; in the Greek and Latin verses at the end of the volume, there is real poetic quality, especially in the beautiful threnody on Professor Child. The initial essays contain many helpful counsels to the student and the teacher of the classics, to whom they are addressed. By precept and by example, they insist that "a philologian must be many-sided before he can be one-sided." When present-day discussions teem with abuse of the philologian, it is refreshing to find here a broad and noble conception of philology which includes other kinds of interpretation in something larger:

> It is the fundamental knowledge of the ancient languages which makes the philologian, and marks him off from the mere antiquarian or historian who works with translations.

None had a better right to repeat these proud words of Ritschl than the writer of this book.

Notes.

Scribner's have in the press A. T. Quiller-Couch's new novel, "Lady Good-for-Nothing," and a biography of Molière, by Brander Matthews.

Henry Holt & Co. will bring out a new edition of "The Last of the Mohicans," with colored illustrations by E. Boyd Smith.

An unpublished comedy of George Meredith, "The Sentimentalists," or at least the portion of it which he completed, will appear in *Scribner's Magazine* for August.

Duffield & Company's list of books for the autumn contains "Chantecler," in English; H. G. Wells's novel, "The New Machiavelli"; Marguerite Bryant's "Anne Kemburn: Truthseeker"; Richard Dehan's "One Braver Thing," a novel issued in England under the title of "The Dop Doctor"; "Devious Ways," by Gilbert Cannan; Katharine Holland Brown's "White Roses"; "The Getting of Wisdom," by Henry Handel Richardson; "Angela's Quest," by Lilian Bell; "The Pools of Silence," by H. de Vere Stacpoole; Mrs. Sharp's "Memoir of William Sharp"; "Furniture," by Esther Singleton; "Heroic Spain," by E. Boyle O'Reilly; "The Science of Advertising," by Edwin Balmer; "Stories of the Spanish Artists," in the Art and Letters Library; Oscar Wilde's "Ballad of Reading Gaol," in the Rubric Series; "Ancient English Christmas Carols" and "The Cell of Self-Knowledge," in the New Mediæval Library; "Sketches and Snapshots," by the Right Hon. G. W. E. Russell; "Rambles with an American," by Christian Tearle; "The Quintessence of Nietzsche," by J. M. Kennedy; "Leaders of Socialism: Past and Present," by G. R. S. Taylor, with studies of Owen, Saint Simon, Karl Marx, Ferdinand Lasalle, William Morris, Bernard Shaw, Robert Blatchford, and many others; "An Eighteenth-Century Correspondence," comprising Letters of Deane Swift, Pitt, Robert Nugent, the Earls of Guilford, Coventry, and Hardwicke; "The Life and Letters of William Beckford," by Lewis Melville; "The Bolster Book," by Harry Graham; Marguerite Merington's "Holiday Plays"; "Plays of To day and To-morrow," to include Rudolf Besier's "Don," and J. B. Fagan's "The Earth"; Hawthorne's "Wonder Book and Tanglewood Tales," complete, with drawings in colors by Maxfield Parrish; "A Child's Book of Old Verses," selected and illustrated by Jessie Willcox Smith; Kate Dickinson Sweetser's "Ten Boys from History," illustrated by George Alfred Williams; Oliver Clay's "Treasure Finders; or How the Adventurers of Four Centuries Discovered a New Land"; "The Animal Trainer"; Olive Hyde Foster's "Cookery for Little Girls"; John Rae's "The Pies and the Pirates: A Shadow Show, with Scissors Supplement"; Edith B. Davidson's "The Blowing Away of Mr. and Mrs. Bushytail."

Houghton Mifflin Co. makes the following announcement of books for the autumn season: "Clever Betsy," by Clara Louise Burnham; "John Winterbourne's Family," by Alice Brown; "Enchanted Ground: An Episode in the Life of a Young Man," by Harry James Smith; "A Man's Man," by Ian Hay; "The Meddlings of Eve," by William J. Hopkins; "The Empty House, and Other Stories," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps; "Husband, and The Forbidden Guests," a play, by John Corbin; "Stories and Tales," by Sarah Orne Jewett; "Light Horse Harry's Legion," by Everett T. Tomlinson; "The Crashaw Brothers," by Arthur Stanwood Pier; six stories from "Tales from the Alhambra," by Washington Irving, arranged by Josephine Brower; "Young Americans in the British Isles," by Everett T. Tomlinson; "The Bunnikins-Bunnies in Europe," by Edith B. Davidson; "Dixie Kitten," by Eva March Tappan; "Brothers in Fur," by Eliza Orne White; "Star People," by Katharine Fay Dewey; "Little Girl Blue," by Josephine Scribner Gates; a holiday edition of "The Children's Book," edited by Horace E. Scudder; "The Homecomers," by Winifred Kirkland; "When Sarah Went to School," by Elsie Singmaster; "Finella in Fairyland," by Demetra Kenneth Brown; "The Old, Old Story Book," stories from the Old Testament, compiled by Eva March Tappan; "The Christmas Angel," by Abbie Farwell Brown; a holiday edition of "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," by Kate Douglas Wiggin; Bret Harte's "Salomy Jane," illustrated in color by Harrison Fisher, Arthur I. Keller, and others; "Pages from the Book of Paris," by Claude C. Washburn and Lester G. Hornby; "The Digressions of V," by Elihu Vedder; "John Brown: A Biography, Fifty Years After," by Oswald Garrison Villard; "Richard H. Dana, jr.: Speeches in Stirring Times, and Letters to a Son," edited, with introductory sketch and notes, by Richard H. Dana (3d); "The Battle of the Wilderness," by Morris Schaff; "The Corsican: A Diary of Napoleon's Life, in His Own Words," compiled and translated by R. M. Johnston; "The Japanese Letters of Lafcadio Hearn," edited by Elizabeth Bisland; "An American Citizen: The Life of William H. Baldwin, jr.," by John Graham Brooks; "Among Friends," by Samuel M. Crothers; "Our House and the People in It," by Elizabeth Robins Pennell; a holiday edition of "Cranford," by Mrs. Gaskell; "Touring in 1600: A Study in the Development of Touring as a Means of Education," by E. S. Bates; "In the Footprints of Heine," by Henry James Forman; "In the Catskills," by John Burroughs; "Jeanne d'Arc: The Maid of France," by Mary Rogers Bangs; "Old People," by Harriet E. Paine; "The Mystery of Golf," by Arnold Haultain;

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"Tales from the Old French," by Isabel Butler; "Emerson's Journals," edited by Edward W. Emerson and Waldo Emerson Forbes, Volume III 1833-1835, Volume IV 1836-1837; "Records of a Lifelong Friendship: Ralph Waldo Emerson and William Henry Furness," edited by Horace Howard Furness; "The Autograph Poets," including the works of Longfellow, Emerson, Lowell, Harte, Holmes, Keats, Tennyson, Burns, Whittier, and Scott; "The Complete Poems of Edgar Allan Poe," edited by J. H. Whitty; a holiday edition of "Pippa Passes and Men and Women," by Robert Browning; "Rose of the Wind, and Other Poems," by Anna Hempstead Branch; "The Psychology of Religious Experience," by Edward Scribner Ames; "The Old Testament Narrative," in the classic English version, edited by Alfred Dwight Sheffield; "The Presentation of Religion to Educated Men," by George Hodges, D.D.; "The Birth and Resurrection of Our Lord," by William H. Ryder, D.D.; "The Early Religion of Israel," by Lewis B. Paton, D.D.; "Primitive Psycho-Therapy and Quackery," by Robert M. Lawrence, M.D.; "The Stone Age in North America," by Warren K. Moorehead; "Copyright: Its History and Development," by Richard Rogers Bowker; "Methods of Attracting Birds," by Gilbert H. Trafton; "How to Judge a Book," by Edwin L. Shuman; "Education in the United States since the Civil War," by Charles F. Thwing; "A Beginner's History of Philosophy," by Herbert E. Cushman; "Prose Literature for Secondary Schools," edited by Margaret Ashmun, with an introduction by Willard G. Bleyer; "Little Mr. Thimblefinger Stories," by Joel Chandler Harris; "The Story of the Roman People," by Eva March Tappan; "Children's Classics in Dramatic Form," Books i and iv, by Augusta Stevenson; "Ethics for Children: A Guide for Teachers and Parents," by Ella Lyman Cabot; "The Teacher's Philosophy, in and out of School," by William DeWitt Hyde; "The Problem of Vocational Education," by David Snedden; "The Ideal Teacher," by George H. Palmer; "The Siege of the Seven Suitors," by Meredith Nicholson; and in the Riverside Literature Series the following six new issues: "How to Teach English Classics," by Charles Swain Thomas; "Macaulay's Essay on Lord Clive; and Essay on Warren Hastings," edited by Allan Abbott; "Sheridan's The Rivals," edited by Joseph Q. Adams, jr.; "The Nibelungenlied," translated and edited by Daniel B. Shumway; "The Old Testament Narrative," edited by Alfred D. Sheffield; "Captains of Industry: Selected Sketches," by James Parton.

Now that the great "New English Dictionary" of Dr. Murray and his associates has advanced into S, the "Etymological Dictionary of the English Language," by Prof. W. W. Skeat, can no longer claim quite the same relative importance which it possessed in the earlier editions. The new (fourth) edition, however, which has just been published by the Oxford University Press, is thoroughly revised and enlarged, and, as the author states, alterations, in many cases radical, have been made in almost every article. In its new form the work presents a great improvement on all previous editions, indeed entirely supersedes them. Professor Skeat was able to avail himself, among other things, of the assistance of the "New English Dictionary" down to Ph. The list of "Books referred to in the Dictionary" does not contain the names of some recent authorities of importance, and a closer examination of the present edition will discover, no doubt, as in the case of the previous editions, points in which the author's methods of workmanship differ from those of his German and American colleagues; but his unsurpassed familiarity with the English vocabulary—especially in the earlier periods—and his long occupation with Anglo-Saxon and Middle English texts give exceptional weight to his opinions on all questions of etymology, so that no student of our language can afford to neglect the present revised edition.

We have in "Leigh Hunt's Relations with Byron, Shelley, and Keats" (Macmillan), by Barnette Miller, an excellent doctor's thesis (Columbia University) which affords a relief to the studies of types of literature that now so largely engage the energies of scholarship in our American universities. One cannot but feel that critical and biographical monographs like the present, by keeping closer to life and the spirit that produces literature, serve the interests of true culture better than the other class of studies, which owe so much of their inspiration to the methods of modern science. The work before us gives a fair estimate, we believe, of Leigh Hunt's character and influence on his great contemporaries. It is based, for the most part, of course, on sources that are generally accessible, but the author has gone carefully through the files of the *Examiner* and other publications with which Hunt was connected, and is consequently in a position to give a more accurate idea of the character of his journalistic style and influence. These researches, it may be remarked, incidentally, seem to have fixed the winter of 1816 definitely as the time when Keats and Hunt first met. The author does justice to Hunt's genius for friendship and the fine critical sympathy which enabled him from the very start, almost alone among his contemporaries, to give the due meed of appreciation to Shelley and Keats. He had, of course, his weaknesses, but Seneca's *mala pecunia* was, after all, the cause of virtually every trouble of his life. The loose habits of lending and borrowing money which prevailed in the early part of his career were by no means confined to those who came under Godwin's influence. All the lives and correspondence of the period show a state of feeling in regard to these matters which reminds one strongly of the conditions in our own Southern States before the civil war, when, under a mistaken conception of generosity, almost every gentleman held himself ready to run the risk of ruin by "going security" for his friend. The result in the end, as a rule, simply confirmed the wisdom of Polonius's advice to his son. Students of Byron will turn with especial interest to our author's treatment of the affair of the *Liberal*, where the blame for the failure of this famous, though short-lived, periodical—if blame there was—is, we believe, rightly apportioned. Whatever may have been Hunt's shortcomings in this matter, he paid dearly for the blunder of his "Lord Byron and some of his contemporaries" by the even excessive condemnation which that work received. Not only this affair, however, but the whole history of everything pertaining to Hunt's relations with the three great poets, is related in this monograph, with full knowledge and in an agreeable style. On the other hand, it is to be regretted that the proofs were not read with more care. At the bottom of page 119 there is a bad typographical confusion, owing to the fact that there is no division between text and notes. Poetry appears more than once in the volume as "poety," and we never heard before of Milton's being an "entomological" expert.

Dr. C. E. Slocum's volume on "The Ohio Country, Between the Years 1783 and 1815" (*Putnam*) is devoted to proving the thesis, set forth on the title page, that "the war of 1775-1783 between the United Colonies and Great Britain was revolutionary; the war of 1812-1814 between the United States and Great Britain was the War of Independence." The period covered is not pleasant reading at best, and the unpleasantness of it is decidedly heightened, for the present-day reader, when colored by a partisanship too strong to admit of exact justice to both sides. That the British were slow in showing a disposition to make good their treaty engagements assumed in 1783, and that the young Republic suffered great harm through untoward British influence with the Indians of the North and West, is all true. These facts are too generally known to need statement as such, and the only valid reason for bringing them up again in detail would be to set them in truer relation to the fundamental currents of history than has ever been done before. This can be done only by the historian whose sense of justice is keen enough to search for faults as relentlessly on the one side as the other, and Dr. Slocum's book will not convince the fair-minded reader that this has been done. From cover to cover it is a persistent attack on the British, with virtually nothing to indicate that there was anything whatever on our side to which objection could reasonably have been taken. Even if one admits this one-sided view to be true, it still remains that the current and future relations of Great Britain and the United States are of vastly greater importance than the past, and to rake over the century-old ashes again, without even the excuse of making some substantial addition to historical knowledge, is a doubtful use of time and energy.

It is singular how long the modern dialects of Palestine, and especially of Jerusalem, were neglected while those round them found diligent students. But of late, under the pressure of practical necessities rather than through academic studies, that gap is being rapidly filled, and by nothing better than by the "Manual of Palestinean Arabic" of Dr. Hans Spoer (resident now for some years in Jerusalem, and once fellow of the American School of Archeology there) and Elias Haddad, a local Arabic teacher of repute. The book is strictly a practical manual, but one of singular richness in construction, idiom, and vocabulary. It endeavors to state the facts of a standard educated dialect—that of the Muslim better classes of Jerusalem—and avoids confusing the beginner with local details. It also frankly recognizes the horror which all non-phonetically trained English spellers have for rigid phonetic systems, and tries so to write the words that their pronunciation may be instinctively apparent to the English reader. There is a full English-Arabic

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vocabulary, but it is to be hoped that Dr. Spoer will follow up this book with a Syrian Arabic-English lexicon and a larger collection of *Märchen*.

The appearance in English of the excellent Japanese Encyclopædia, "A Historical and Geographical Dictionary of Japan," by E. Papinot, M.A. (the "Sansaisha"), which contains 300 illustrations and several maps, is sure to meet with a very general welcome. The work, which represents a vast amount of labor, is compiled by an old resident of Japan, and is on the whole more specific and complete than Professor Chamberlain's "Things Japanese," being primarily a book of reference. It certainly may be regarded as the most satisfactory work yet issued in respect to the special subjects with which it deals, and in a very compressed form contains the gist of almost everything that is known about them. The subjects of religion, politics, literature, drama, social customs, the administration of justice, and a host of other matters relating to Japanese history and civilization, are dealt with admirably under their respective headings. Some of the more important items receive as many as two or three pages, while those less significant are disposed of often in as many lines. The ample manner in which the references are illustrated, chiefly by reproductions from Japanese drawings, adds much to the practicability of what often might appear too remote for Occidental comprehension. These, together with colored maps and useful appendices, greatly increase the value of the work as a book of reference. The book is printed on good paper, in large, clear type, and is well bound in cloth.

A. C. Clark, the well-known Oxford scholar, has published a paper on "The Cursus in Mediæval and Vulgar Latin" (Clarendon Press). This is at once a review for the uninitiated of a subject much bruited of late, and a contribution to that subject. The writer traces the *mixtus cursus*, or combination of accentual and metrical elements in the *clausulæ* of rhetorical prose, farther back than scholars have followed it before. He finds it in Petronius, Frontinus, and even in the colloquial Latin of Cicero's letters to Atticus. This somewhat startling result is inherently probable, and corroborates those theories of Latin versification which make the Saturnian measure accentual and emphasize the function of word-accent in Plautus and Terence. But we need further evidence. We also need a workable definition of *mixtus cursus*, and a further consideration, even after Zielinski, of possible metrical *clausulæ*. The passage from St. Jerome cited by Mr. Clark seems to us metrical rather than mixed. The *clausulæ* in the theological works of Boethius are probably not mixed; it seems more likely that in the introductions and epilogues, as always in the "Consolation" Boethius uses metrical *clausulæ*, while for the discussion itself, as in his other technical works, he only incidentally uses *clausulæ* of any kind. But whatever the truth as to these details, Mr. Clark's paper is useful as a general summary, and should stimulate further investigation of his attractive hypothesis.

Dr. Delos F. Wilcox, chief of the bureau of franchises of the Public Service Commission for the First District of New York, has produced a work of standard value, on "Municipal Franchises" (The Engineering News Publishing Co.). It is a description of the terms and conditions upon which private corporations enjoy special privileges in the streets of American cities. The mere statement of its scope is enough to indicate that preparing the work has been a task of difficult and laborious research, the performance of which deserves the gratitude of all students of American government. The work will be completed in two volumes, the first of which has been issued. It considers pipe and wire franchises, but also contains five introductory chapters dealing with the general subject of franchise grants, and the relations between public authority and public service corporations. Dr. Wilcox's systematic analysis of the conditions that promote abuse of public trusts, waste of public resources, and deterioration of public service, is carried out in a scientific spirit which gives to his observations special value, so that they are capable of exerting a powerful influence in bettering conditions.

Dr. Leonhard Felix Fuld describes his work on "Police Administration" (Putnam), as "a critical study of police organizations in the United States and abroad." The contents hardly support the claim. The casual references to English, French, and German methods are too slight to be regarded as a critical study. The organization and work of the Canadian mounted police, consideration of which would have been particularly instructive, are not even mentioned. The author has amassed much information as to the operation and defects of police departments in the United States, but at times his opinions appear to be unsupported dicta rather than sound generalizations. For instance, he remarks that "it has been the experience of the world that the efficiency of the detective force varies inversely as the freedom of the people." Is the London detective force less efficient than that of St. Petersburg? In some comments, generally sound, as to the superiority of policemen over soldiers in dealing with mobs, Dr. Fuld goes to unwarranted lengths in holding that it is the inclination of the rioter to retreat before the policeman's bâton, while "the rifle and the bayonet, on the other hand, are strange and to a certain extent fascinating." The Pennsylvania State constabulary has shown that mounted troopers, trained to such duty, are superior to policemen in dealing with mobs. An account of the organization and equipment of that force might properly have been expected in a work of this character, but it is not mentioned further than to note its existence. Altogether, the book, while a useful compilation of data in regard to police organization and discipline, does not fully grasp the subject.

A new text of "Wilhelm Meister" has come to light. It appears that last December one of the students of Prof. Gustav Billeter of Zurich handed him a manuscript which had for a long time been preserved by the student's father, and which, according to tradition, had been attributed to Goethe. On the cover was absurdly written "Manuscript of Goethe's book, the Sorrows of Werther." One glance sufficed to show the professor that the words were false, and he brushed the manuscript aside for the moment, not noticing until later that within was the title, "Wilhelm Meister's theatralische Sendung." He thereupon sent the text for identification to Professor Mayne of Berne, who recognized in it the original version of Goethe's celebrated novel. The text is to be published this summer, but meantime certain facts about its origin and character have been given out in advance by the *Deutsche Rundschau* and the *Petit Temps*.

The significance of this *Ur-Meister*, or original form of the first six books of the novel, is by no means slight. The problem of understanding Goethe's meaning in "Wilhelm Meister" has always been great, and is complicated by the fact that the work passed through almost as many stages of revision as "Faust," during the fifty years in which Goethe occupied himself with it. What aggravates the difficulty is that Goethe's outlook on life sustained a great change when he visited Italy, and that afterwards his earlier attitude in "Meister" was more or less effaced. Thus in the original version the sister of Wilhelm, who in the later text is transferred to the background, bears the name Amelia, a transparent pseudonym of the poet's sister, Cornelia. This is an interesting tribute, not to be found in any of Goethe's other works. Amelia grows up alongside of Wilhelm, and in the second book marries Werner, who is clearly Schlosser, Cornelia's husband. Some of the original phrasing in the Mignon episode shows that with the visit to Italy Goethe's imagination became more precise, *Dunklen Laub* is surely more effective than *grünen Laub*, and *hoch der Lorbeer steht* is exacter than *froh der Lorbeer steht*. The new text, also, probably serves to correct an error in a well-known line. Mignon, in the current version, closes a first stanza with:

Dahin! dahin!
Möcht ich mit dir, o mein Geliebter, ziehn.

The word *Geliebter* does not occur in the other stanzas, where Wilhelm is called "father" and "protector," and seems out of place, because Mignon is trying to conceal her love. Now in the original version the word is *Gebieter*, "master," and Professor Mayne believes that the later alteration was a printer's error. In general he informs us that the early copy is so different in spirit from the other that it constitutes virtually an independent work.

The death is announced of Dr. William Wetz, professor of English philology at the University of Freiburg, at the age of fifty-one. He was editor of the *Zeitschrift für vergleichende Literaturgeschichte* and the author of several works, including "Shakespeare vom Standpunkt der vergleichenden Literaturgeschichte."

Major Martin Andrew Sharp Hume, who died about a fortnight ago, in his sixty-third year, was well known as a writer on Spanish subjects, both historical and literary. Like his compatriot, Fitzmaurice-Kelly, he was an authority on the relations of Spain and England, especially in the period of the Renaissance. The list of his publications is as follows: "Chronicle of Henry VIII," "Calendar of Spanish State Papers," "Courtships of Queen Elizabeth," "The Year After the Armada," "Sir Walter Raleigh," "Philip II of Spain," "The Great Lord Burghley," "Spain, Its Greatness and Decay," "Modern Spain," "A History of the Spanish People," "Treason and Plot," "The Love Affairs of Mary, Queen of Scots," "Españoles é Ingleses en el Siglo XVI," "Cam-

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bridge Modern History," Vols. III and IV; "Spanish Influence on English Literature," "The Wives of Henry VIII," "Queens of Old Spain," "Face to Face," "Through Portugal," "The Court of Philip IV," "Dictionary of Spanish Quotations" (in collaboration), "Two English Queens and Philip," "Queen Elizabeth and Her England," and numerous contributions to English and Spanish periodicals.

Gen. de Beylié, commanding the French troops in Cochin China, was recently drowned in the Mekong River. He is best known for his archæological discoveries in Burma and Mesopotamia, where he met the American scientific mission from the Smithsonian Institution, which was much interested in his work. He was born in Strasburg in 1849. He was a commander of the Legion of Honor and a member of the following organizations: the Comité Technique des Troupes Coloniales, the Société Asiatique, the Société de Géographie, the Société de Géographie Commerciale, the Société de Topographie, the Société des Fouilles Archéologiques, and the Académie Delphinale. He wrote, besides several treatises on military art, "De Lorient à Sammarcande," "Histoire de l'habitation byzantine," "L'Art Hindou en Extrême-Orient," "Voyage Archéologique en Birmanie et en Mésopotamie," "La Kalaa des Beni Hammad," and "Le Musée de Grenoble."

Science.

Our Garden Flowers. By Harriet L. Keeler. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $2 net.

Great as is the number of garden books, none of them is just like this. Most of them are for beginners, containing directions for fertilizing the soil, putting seeds in the ground, and caring for the plants, young and old. Such things are not to be looked for in these pages, except in a few instances, as when the writer chides amateur gardeners for permitting pansies to die in summer, when, by giving them a place shaded in the afternoon and by keeping them well-watered, they can be kept in bloom till late in the autumn. What the author does dwell on is the native lands of garden flowers, their life histories, and their structural affiliations. It is, therefore, a book for those who have already become familiar with flowers and their nurture, and now desire to know something about the genealogy, botanic structure, and original habitat of their floral pets.

Time was when flowering plants were cultivated because of their real or supposed medicinal qualities, rather than because of their beauty. Some peoples, however, reared them for their shapes and colors, many generations ago. While the mediæval Europeans still believed that peonies drove away evil spirits and averted tempests, the Japanese gardeners were busy bestowing on them such cultivation and variety of color as they only knew how to give. The first of their tree peonies were brought to England in 1789. To-day there are above a thousand named varieties of this glorious flower.

There were Burbanks before Burbank, in Europe as well as in Japan. Unlike the many-sided Luther Burbank of California, however, most of them were specialists, devoting a life-time to one variety of flowers. The old English were very fond of the small pansies which are now contemptuously called Johnny-Jump-Ups; they had many names showing their liking for it, such as Heartsease, Love-in-Idleness, Cuddle-Me-to-You, Three-Faces-Under-a-Hood, Herb-Trinity. What would they have said could they have seen the modern pansy, as enlarged and beautified by those three French specialists, Bugnot, Cassier, and Trimardeau! Or the modern sweetpea, as transformed by their own Henry Eckford of Shropshire, who up to 1908 had created about seventy-five varieties of wonderful colors and remarkable size. About twenty years ago these new sweetpeas began to attract special attention in this country; to-day, the author tells us, "practically the world's supply is produced by the California seed-growers, and amounts to hundreds of tons annually."

After mentioning in this volume the great French and English specialists, it seems unfair to omit all reference to the American Burbank, who revealed such astonishing new possibilities in several kinds of poppies, for instance, including the Eschscholtzias. This hideous name inflicted on one of the loveliest flowers was, it seems, given it by Chamisso in honor of the surgeon of his expedition, whose name was Eschscholz. It ought to be forbidden by a special act of the Legislature of California, of which this is the State flower.

The remarkable achievements of the past two or three years in the development of both the science and the art of aeronautics, and the widespread interest in this subject thus created, have resulted in a notable increase in the literature of it. Among the more recent books, one of considerable interest is "The Conquest of the Air," by Alphonse Berget (Putnam). This makes no pretension to be a handbook, but is rather a lucid and attractive volume, which may properly be styled an introduction to the study of aeronautics. Part i is given over to a consideration of dirigible balloons, while part ii is concerned with a discussion of aviation apparatus. The aim of the writer has been to suppress useless details which might tend to confuse the student, and to minimize the importance of the history of aeronautics in order that he may present sufficient data to familiarize the reader with present-day aerial locomotion. The volume is profusely illustrated, containing upwards of 100 well-selected plates and diagrams. The brief appendix will be of interest and value to those who may wish to inform themselves concerning the laws governing the resistance of the air.

A useful little book is the "Garden Primer," by Grace Tabor and Gardner Teall (McBride, Winston & Co.). It undertakes to give, in language clear to a beginner, directions for all the fundamental garden processes. To do this in one hundred small pages is something of a feat. The expert may cavil at the result, as being incomplete in various particulars, but that is inherent in the nature of the task. In general, the authors have well measured the limits of their subjects, and have produced a simple, clear, and trustworthy little volume.

Drama.

Will Shakespeare. By Margaret Crosby Munn. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. $1.20 net.

It is told of Addison that when Queen Anne died and it became his duty as Secretary of State to announce that fact to the Powers of Europe, he, master as he was of the English tongue, found himself unable to frame a message befitting so solemn an occasion in words to satisfy his own fastidious taste, and finally abandoned the task to a more confident and less imaginative subordinate, who quickly scribbled a conventional dispatch and ever afterward boasted of his superior literary facility. To picture Shakespeare in his habit as he lived, not only as man, lover, and player, but as poet—to endow him with appropriate thoughts, action, and utterance—is an enterprise from which the most inspired and aspiring of modern poets might well have shrunk appalled. But Mrs. Munn—inspired, as she says, by the Hamlet of Forbes Robertson—has not feared to undertake the task, and the result is this four-act drama. And her vaulting ambition, if it has overleaped itself, has not fallen altogether disastrously. Her Shakespeare, though he glows with no divine fire and is somewhat too plainly a thing of shreds and patches, is, on the whole, a picturesque figure. Much of the blank verse allotted to him is pretty and mellifluous; some of it is virile and passionate, some wisely reflective; none of it is feeble or slovenly. The references here, of course, are to the purely original matter, not to those passages which are suggested by the works of the poet himself.

The author claims that the play is historically accurate in regard to its dates and principal events, but it is not at all necessary to discuss that question, which, in a case of admitted fiction, is not very important. Suffice it to say that the course of the story is in general but not invariable accordance with tradition and such few historical facts as we have. In the first act the young Shakespeare, dreaming and poaching in Charlecote wood, is pursued by Anne Hathaway, represented as an

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amorous shrew. Captured by Sir Thomas Lucy and his servants, he agrees to marry her upon the understanding that he shall not be punished for his past sylvan offences. In the second act, four years later, Shakespeare, harassed by Anne's exacting temper and his pecuniary distresses, is visited by a band of strolling players — including his old friends Heminge and Greene—and, having already written several plays, makes up his mind to go to London to seek his fortune. Twelve years then elapse, and he is next revealed at the height of glory, the cherished friend of Southampton and Essex, and the favorite playwright and actor of his day. At this point the play, hitherto deficient in action, assumes rapid movement in the development of a romantic intrigue—which might easily be made effective on the stage—in which Shakespeare, after winning assurances of love from the beautiful Elizabeth Vernon, and rescuing her from a compromising situation by an ingenious use of his histrionic powers, is shamelessly jilted by her in favor of Southampton, into whose guardianship he had entrusted her. The mechanism here is conventional and often awkward, but as the incident is plentiful and exciting and the action is carried on under the cover of a masque, which provides opportunity for disguise and spectacle, the theatrical value of the third and fourth acts is considerable. The hand of the novice is betrayed, however, in the excessive use of the old and always transparent device of mistaken identity. In the end the disenchanted Shakespeare, after unravelling the dramatic tangle, and receiving solace from a vision of the immortal characters yet to be created by him, resolves to return to his deserted family.

In its present form, the play is far too long for stage representation, but this particular fault could easily be remedied. The tale has more theatrical than historical value, and even the verse would suffer nothing from judicious editing. Several of the subordinate characters—Essex, Southampton, Elizabeth Vernon, Bridget Manners—are cleverly and vigorously sketched, and there is no lack of situation. The literary, poetic, and dramatic ability displayed in it is of no common order; but, unfortunately, it is not brilliant enough to satisfy the ideals suggested by so lofty a theme. Nevertheless, in the ambitious dramatist lies the chief hope of the stage.

H. B. Irving has accepted for production a play which has been dramatized by George Pleydell from the novel "Clementina," by A. E. W. Mason.

"The Servant in the House," by C. Rann Kennedy, in which Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison made a great success with Walter Hampden, in America, and which she took recently, with less success, to London, has been translated into German by F. E. Washburn Freund, and will be produced at the Meiningen Hof-Theater.

"Chantecler" is to be played in the open air at Carcassone, at Toulouse, and elsewhere during August and September. It is said that the receipts from the play in Paris have amounted to $120,000; and it is now being played at popular prices. The next production at the Gymnase will be "Miguette et sa Mère," the cast including M. Galipaux, the Merle of "Chantecler," and Mlle. Monna Delza.

At the meeting held in the Mansion House, London, March 23, 1909, it was stated that a promise of £70,000 towards the sum needed to carry out the scheme for a National Shakespeare Theatre had been made by an anonymous giver. It is now generally understood that the generous giver of the large sum referred to is Sir Carl Meyer. In the official note issued with the announcement of the baronetcy conferred upon him on the occasion of the day set apart for the celebration of the late King's birthday, he was described as "a leading supporter of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre."

Art.

We have received the first two numbers of the *Rassegna d'Arte Umbra*, edited by Umberto Gnoli and published by the Stabilmento Tipografico and Bartelli & Cia, Perugia. The form is small octavo, the typography excellent, the decorative border of cover is from a Perugian title page of 1522. The illustrations are printed separately on detached gray mounts. The editor is an indefatigable student of the art of Umbria, and will doubtless find plenty of fresh material. Articles of especial interest in the first number are The Windows of Giovanni Bonino in the Basilica of Assisi, by Giustino Cristofani, and a Polyptych, by Pietro Lorenzetti, discovered at Gubbio. This fine altar-piece was found by the editor of the *Rassegna* completely covered by a rude painting of the seventeenth century. The leading article of the second number is the editor's critique of Umbrian pictures in the exhibition of the Burlington Club, London. The special feature of this publication, to judge by the numbers at hand, will be short notes, sometimes documentary, which cover the entire Umbrian territory and bring useful information of restorations and discoveries of works of art. The second number, for example, tells of the finding in the Church of S. Francesco, Gubbio, of a reliquary pieced together in the fourteenth century from older miniatures, two of which are of the fifth century and in remarkable preservation. Altogether, this new periodical promises to make a place for itself. The subscription price is 5 lire for Italy, 6.50 for foreign countries.

We have received from E. J. Brill of Leyden "Publications of the Princeton University Archæological Expedition to Syria in 1904-1905," Section B, Northern Syria, parts i to iii. The architectural portion is written by Howard Crosby Butler, the well-known expert in this field, the epigraphical part by William Kelly Prentice. These studies include the comparatively unknown territory of the 'Alā and Kasr ibn Wardân, il-Anderîn, Kerrātîn, Ma'râtā, besides a more careful survey of the Djebel Rîhā and Djebel Wastaneh. In these last-named regions were found abundant and instructive remains of domestic architecture which are fully drawn and described. These late Roman villas range from small houses with three or four rooms, including a stable, to fairly palatial establishments. The ruins are in such condition that the arrangement of the upper story could frequently be made out. Churches are numerous in all these regions, but other public structures, barracks, baths, and inns, were photographed and measured. Since the local stone, basalt, is refractory, there was found little elaborate decoration. The tendency was to simplification of mouldings—mere chamfered courses are common—of the capitals, etc. On the other hand, the expedition found several more of those panelled basalt doors which seem peculiar to Syria. An exception to the rule of basalt is found at Kasr ibn Wardân with its monumental church and barracks built of brick. Here Mr. Butler feels certain that we have to do with imperial constructions of Justinian's time. The church, of which an elaborate reconstruction is presented, is of a truly remarkable kind. All its arches are two-centred and slightly pointed. It had a lofty dome, the pendentives of which were pierced with rather large windows. The vaulting of the aisles and triforium already serves in a manner as buttress for the nave and dome. Here we see Byzantine architecture apparently getting ready to take the step that Romanesque architecture actually did take six centuries later. It looks as if the moment builders began the practice of cross vaulting the convenience of the pointed arch was sure to appear. The barracks of Kasr ibn Wardân boasted a domed hall only less important than the church. We can only hint at the interesting matter comprised in these monographs which cover buildings of all sorts ranging from the fourth to the seventh centuries, many of which are definitely dated by inscriptions. Much of the material is evidently significant in view of the whole Byzantine problem now under agitation.

"Distinctive Homes of Moderate Cost," edited by Henry H. Saylor (McBride, Winston & Co.), is a thin quarto of composite authorship and fully illustrated. Most of the articles have apparently done service in a periodical. They represent the customary good advice about the selection of a site, dealing with architect and contractor, choosing building materials, water supply, heating arrangements, and all the minutiæ of house furnishing to curtain, rugs, and wall papers. Naturally, the advice, coming from a score of writers, is of uneven authority. For example, the expert on garages evidently thinks that shelter for five cars is not excessive for the "home of moderate cost." In general, however, the remarks of the contributors are sensible. The present writer can cavil only at the article which recommends the most bizarre and unstructural fixtures for lights, and at the hopeful attitude of another counsellor toward certain base Oriental rugs of the day. Taken broadly, this compilation is good of its kind and may be read with profit by families meaning to build, who approach the emergency without experience or artistic prepossessions.

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There is a distinct charm about P. H. Ditchfield's "The Manor Houses of England" (Scribner importation), with its tasteful cover and frontispiece like an old color print. These modest buildings are not exploited in the guidebooks, the historian of architecture usually passes them by; they are, however, of manifold interest. Being merely an expansion of the farmhouse or village residence, manor houses generally have remained true to the popular traditions of building, avoiding the pretentious aberrations exemplified in palatial structures. So the manor house represents merely the level best of local carpenters, masons, and plasterers, working under the vigilant eye of the squire. In fact, this element of personal care is prominent in these little estates. Our author remarks that "it is easier to discover a good manor house garden than one attached to a more magnificent mansion." Under a broad classification by materials (half-timber, brick, lime-stone, flint) typical houses throughout England are briefly described by the author and delineated by Sydney R. Jones's sympathetic pen. These drawings not merely harmonize delightfully with the letterpress, but give character to the buildings better than photographic cuts. The volume is pleasant reading and to the leisurely tourist full of suggestion for delights off the beaten track. For such readers we quote a tidbit. "The older houses," writes Mr. Ditchfield, "have for a corner-post the butt of a tree placed root upwards, with the top part curving diagonally outwards in order to carry the angle-posts of the upper storey." To reflect on this corner-post and then observe the make of the "Elizabethan houses" that are adorning our suburbs might be the beginning of wisdom in architecture.

Archibald H. Christie's "Traditional Methods of Pattern Designing," an introduction to the study of decorative art (Frowde), has the somewhat rare merit of being a thoroughly well-made book. The illustrations, about four hundred, are kept near the respective text, so that both continuous reading and occasional consultation are easy. Mr. Christie's point of view is that of abstract morphology. He brings together powdering, patterns, stripes, floral motives, strap and knot work, superimposed or countercharged designs, according to their structure, illustrating freely from many periods of art. For the practical designer this method has its advantages. Especially useful will be the chapters on laying out all manner of counter charged on reciprocal patterns and interlaces, and in general the insistence on geometry and the avoidance of realistic examples make this excellent little manual strong precisely where most modern pattern-making is weak. The analysis of intricate designs into their simple elements is a characteristic and useful exercise many times repeated. Among the cuts Oriental, Saracenic, and Persian examples preponderate. They are well chosen, and, generally, are reproduced from the author's sketches of quite unhackneyed originals. Color prints, as superfluous in this kind of a manual, are not provided. The text is somewhat condensed for the young student, but it will repay anyone who will give it the requisite close reading.

Finance.

STOCKS AND CROPS.

The readjustment has apparently gone far enough in securities, and possibly in commodities, for us to take our bearings once more. If it is assumed, as some have been prone to do in the past month, that stocks have declined in anticipation of reduced dividends, there is reason for supposing that, in the main, the downward movement must have about run its course. This will be more clearly perceived if we cite a few instances. Taking the quotations at the close of the market last Saturday, it will be seen that a 5 per cent. dividend on Atchison, in place of a 6 per cent., would mean a net return of above 5 per cent. If St. Paul were to come down from 7 per cent. to 6 per cent., the net return would be almost 5 per cent. (4.9 per cent.). Union Pacific could reduce from 10 per cent. to 8 per cent. without netting the investor less than 4.92 per cent. These stocks may well be used as an illustration, not merely because they are standard stock-market securities, but also because they have played a noteworthy part in the decline of the past month.

This is not to predict any such reduction in dividends; it is merely taking cognizance of a contingency which some persons have insisted on recognizing of late. The point is that if a decline should actually occur, the recent stock-market quotations could be viewed as having in these particular instances fully discounted the situation—that is, unless the situation is going to be affected by other considerations than the earning power of the properties. So far as the whole list is concerned, a good deal, of course, might remain to be done in the way of adjusting securities to the level of those stocks which have been the leaders in the late decline. But in the main, it is perhaps safe to assume that the stock market has at last "found itself," or at least come pretty near doing so.

It is harder to generalize with reference to commodities. Here the situation, to quite a remarkable degree, is affected by cross currents. For wheat and cotton and a number of other products higher prices are predicted, as a consequence of an alleged shortness in the world supply; but these predictions lack weight in the minds of many, by reason of the fact that the purchasing power of the masses, in this country at least, has been undergoing a contraction of late, and by reason also of the fact that there is some question where the money is coming from to finance these commodities pending the attainment of the hopes of the producers and speculators in the matter of higher quotations.

Indeed, there never was a time when the situation as regards commodities was more interesting. A few facts in connection with one or two standard products will show why. As these remarks are penned, spot cotton is quoted handsomely above 16 cents, or approximately 4½ cents above the figure equivalent to the price to which the mills have marked down the finished product, in the hope of creating a demand—which hope, by the way, has not yet been realized in any satisfactory degree. The August, October, and December options, covering the period in which the mills usually buy the bulk of their raw material for the twelvemonth, are also in excess of the equivalent price at which goods are being offered. Will the mountain go to Mahomet? Cotton-market quotations are based to-day on the assumption that the mills will a few months hence be scrambling for the staple. It should be said, however, that at the moment, at least, the attitude of the mills toward the raw material market is one of absolute unconcern. A large part of their machinery is idle, and they are far more concerned to sell goods than to buy cotton. Last year the planters and the speculators had the whip-hand; this year the manufacturers assert that they have in their storehouses too much cotton, or the equivalent goods, to give any thought to the course of the raw material market this autumn.

Naturally, in view of the crop news of the last few weeks, there are a great many persons who look for higher prices for wheat. Their confidence raises a number of considerations in the thoughtful mind. It is worth recalling that every time, for months past, that the price of wheat has gone up, the demand in the flour market has fallen flat. The prices postulated for foodstuffs during the next year may actually be realized, but it must be confessed that it is hard to see how that could be without forcing such rigid economies on the masses as to impair the movement of general commodities. Such prices would seriously menace our export prospects; and, as a matter of fact, not very much

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is now expected from wheat in the matter of improving our merchandise balance of trade, which, as shown by the recently published figures for the year ended June 30, 1910, is now far from offsetting our obligations abroad for interest, freights, insurance, bankers' loans, and other purposes. Unquestionably, our bankers are counting on a good-sized export movement of cotton as an aid to drawing gold from Europe this season, but it has yet to appear that their hopes are well founded. It remains to be proved that foreign spinners can pay the prices that are predicted for our cotton. Large purchases at such quotations would possibly place them at some disadvantage in the East, in competition with American mills, which, as has previously been intimated, are carrying very considerable stocks of last year's cotton or goods made from such cotton.

Cotton and wheat are the two commodities most likely to be affected by "scarcity" talk this autumn and winter, and yet even in the case of these there are many who fail to see how prices are going to be maintained, much less advanced. Predictions, however, are futile. The whole discussion, in the minds of the most thoughtful, rests on the fact that the average man's pocketbook has been growing thinner this summer, and we must be content to let time show us the effect of that fact on general prices. Such effect as has yet been witnessed is in the direction of a lower general level of quotations. If the movement should be accelerated, it would certainly be safe to declare our whole economic outlook materially improved. It would be possible, in passing, to call attention to "scarcity" periods in one or another standard commodity that have equalled or exceeded the present situation in cotton and wheat, when prices instead of advancing, declined in very marked degree. Such was the year 1900 in wool, following the great drought which prevailed for so many years in Australia.

The money situation has unquestionably improved; not enough as yet to warrant an early return to 1909 conditions in speculation and general business, but enough to create a strong hope that the readjustment now under way in securities and commodities will be carried to a logical conclusion without serious or prolonged disturbance to the economic life of the nation.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Ayres, L. P. Open-Air Schools. Doubleday, Page. $1.20 net.
Bornecque, H., and Röttgers, B. La France d'aujourd'hui. Lemcke & Buechner.
Canning, A. S. G. Sir Walter Scott Studied in Eight Novels. Wessels & Bissell. $2.50 net.
Carrington, F. C. Army Life on the Plains. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $2 net.
Coleridge, M. E. Gathered Leaves, with a Memoir by E. Sichel. Dutton. $2 net.
Coit, S. The Spiritual Nature of Man. London: West London Ethical Society.
Howard, Bronson. In Memoriam: Addresses Delivered at the Memorial Meeting, October 18, 1908. Jamaica, Queens Borough, N. Y.: Marion Press.
Heward, E. V. St. Nicotine of the Peace Pipe. Dutton. $1.50 net.
Hurlbut, J. L. Organizing and Building Up the Sunday School. Eaton & Mains. 65 cents net.
Johnson, O. The Varmint. Baker & Taylor. $1.50.
Jones, C. H. Life and Public Services of J. Glancy Jones. 2 vols. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Klein, D. Literary Criticisms from the Elizabethan Dramatists. Intro. by J. E. Spingarn. Sturgis & Walton. $1.50 net.
Lawton, W. The Boy Aviators on Secret Service. Hurst & Co.
Lucas, R. Lord Glenesk and the "Morning Post." Lane Co. $6 net.
Lyons, A. N. Robert Blatchford. The Sketch of a Personality. Lane Co. 75 cents net.
Natural Ice Association of America: Proceedings, First Regular Meeting, April 12, 1910. New York.
Potter, A. Report Upon Joint Outlet Sewer in Essex and Union Counties, N. J. Second edition. New York: The author.
Reade, W. The Martyrdom of Man. Eighteenth ed., with an intro. by F. Legge. Lane Co. $1.50 net.
Report of the Superintendent of the Insurance Dept., State of Missouri. Year ending Dec. 31, 1909. Jefferson City.
Richards, E. H. Euthenics. Boston: Whitcomb & Barrows. $1 net.
Singleton, E. A Guide to Great Cities For Young Travellers. Northwestern Europe. Baker & Taylor. $1.25 net.
Smith, N. A., and Pepper, G. W. Investigation of the Dept. of the Interior and of the Forest Service: Brief Submitted to the Joint Com. of Congress on Behalf of Mr. Gifford Pinchot.
Stevenson, B. E. A Guide to Biography For Young Readers. Baker & Taylor. $1.25 net.
Tolman, A. H. Questions on Shakespeare. Part I and II. Univ. of Chicago Press. 75 cents and $1.

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